

THE  
**Nonconformist.**

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XIII.—NEW SERIES, No. 424.

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1853.

[PRICE 6d.]



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**WRECK OF THE "MERIDIAN."**

**ON** Lord's-day Evening, December 11th,  
1853, a Thanksgiving Service was held in Zion Chapel,  
Prince's-end, Tipton, Staffordshire, conducted by the Pastor of the  
Church, when a suitable Sermon was preached, after which a  
letter addressed to a member of the Church, from the Rev. J.  
Voller, was read, and the following Resolutions unanimously  
adopted:—

1. That this Church and Congregation desire to express their  
deep sympathy with their late beloved Pastor, Rev. James Voller,  
in the painful circumstances through which he and his family were  
called to pass by the wreck of the "Meridian," on the Isle of  
Amsterdam, on the 24th August last, when they were placed in  
the most imminent peril for 11 days, and escaped with life only,  
all the property on board being lost.
2. That this church and congregation record their devout  
thanksgivings to God for their preservation, amid so much peril  
and privation, for the support and spiritual consolation afforded  
them in their deepest sufferings, and for their deliverance, effected  
when hope was almost extinct.
3. That the thanks of this church and congregation are hereby  
respectfully tendered to Captain Ludlow, of the "Monmouth"  
(American whaler), for his manly and determined efforts to save  
the whole of the wretched sufferers on the island, and congratulate  
him on the fact that by the blessing of God, after seven days'  
strenuous effort, he succeeded in his benevolent purpose.
4. That this church and congregation feel called upon to convey  
to the Rev. J. Voller some tangible proof of their sympathy in his  
great loss, by forwarding for his acceptance some books suitable to  
him as a minister, toward the formation of another library, and  
in this desire the co-operation of any ministers and friends who  
may be favourable to the design.

Communications may be addressed to Mr. William Freeman,  
Nonconformist Office, 69, Fleet-street, London. For the country,  
to Mr. T. Green, Cosely, near Bilton.

**PSALMODY.**—Mr. MORELL  
THEOBALD conducts a PSALMODY CLASS at  
GRAFTON-STREET CHAPEL, FITZROY-SQUARE, every  
THURSDAY EVENING, from 8 to 9 o'clock (excepting the  
Thursday preceding the first Sunday in the month); and as it  
is wished not to confine the attendance to the Congregation wor-  
shipping there, all ladies and gentlemen interested in Congrega-  
tional Singing are invited to attend, and to bring a vocal part of  
the Psalmist.

**MATRIMONIAL INSTITUTION.**

(Founded in 1846.)—This Institution has been established  
many years, with great success, as a medium for the introduction  
of parties unknown to each other, who are desirous of forming  
Matrimonial Alliances, but who, from some cause or other, cannot  
find partners in their own circle of acquaintance, suitable in posi-  
tion, &c. The strictest honour and secrecy is maintained in every  
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Constantly renewed stock of elegant Drawing-room Clocks, under  
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Orders received for the erection of Public, Church, or Turret  
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PUBLIC NOTICE is invited to the character of the stock at  
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Establishment, who will henceforth be supplied at the trade  
prices, careful regard being observed in all transactions, to the  
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Best Work Only—Trade Prices—Delivered Free.  
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DURLEY and COMPANY, 66 and 67, OXFORD-STREET, Six  
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Hand, that has regularly served his Apprenticeship to  
the General Watch Jobbing Trade, and can do Clock Work,  
Jewellery, &c.—Apply to H. GRANT and Co., Watchmakers  
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**WANTED IMMEDIATELY, a Good**

Hand, that has been accustomed to the General Nautical  
and Optical Trade.—Apply to H. GRANT and Co., Watchmakers  
and Opticians, Cardiff.

**WANTED, after the Christmas vacation,**

a Gentleman, to take the Classics, Mathematics, &c., in  
a school of about Forty Boys. Salary, £40 per annum to begin  
with, increased according to number of pupils. Leisure for self-  
improvement.—Address, X. T., Post-office, Cambridge.

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—The Situation of SECOND MASTER is now vacant.—  
Apply, with Testimonials, on or before Monday, December 19,  
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of Nonconformist principles, who is a good classical  
scholar, a good opening now presents itself in a respectable  
country town in Dorset.—Apply, A. V., 131, St. John's-street,  
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YOUNG MAN, to assist in the general routine of a  
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take the English Department, and occasionally to assist in the  
Latin, French, and Geometry. Letters, stating age, qualifica-  
tions, salary expected, &c., addressed to R. G., 117, Whitechapel,  
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**TO BRITISH SCHOOLMASTERS and**

OTHERS.—WANTED, for a BOYS' EVENING SCHOOL,  
at Wandsworth, a TEACHER, to give instruction on three  
evenings in the week. Evenings—Monday, Wednesday, and  
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N.B. Should travelling expenses be incurred they will be paid  
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Apply, by letter, to Rev. GEORGE PALMER DAVIES,  
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**TO PARENTS AND GUARDIANS.**—

Mr. DICKIN, Surgeon-Dentist, Rochdale, is in want of a  
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perfect knowledge of the business. A premium expected.

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Fixtures and School-furniture, £65. A large Garden and Play-  
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cent. interest given for Money by the CONGREGATIONAL  
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another part of the country. The Manufactory, situated on the  
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maker's Shop, with Lathes, driven by a Water-wheel, Smiths',  
Braziers', Plumbers', and Tinman's Shop, with store-room for  
Stoves, Nails, and Bar Iron.

Every department of the trade is capable of extension, par-  
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Companies in the neighbourhood. Application to be made to Mr.  
Pearce, and none but Principals will be treated with.

Sole Manufacturer of Pearce's Patent Veruvolver, and Registered  
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MATS of the best quality. The Jury of Class 28, Great  
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Send two postage-stamps for his Pamphlet on Medical Gal-  
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thousands of articles in bijouterie and vertu.—FUTVOYE and  
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BRASS DIALS, 14s. 6d. each, warranted; also an immense  
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WOOD DRESSING-CASES, with Jewel Drawers and Solid  
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cules, and every description of Fancy Cabinet and Leather Goods.  
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DOZEN QUARTS, by taking Six Dozen; a less quantity  
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call and taste these exquisite wines, or favour him with a sample  
order selected from the subjoined list. CLARETS: Margaux, an  
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pagne, 42s.; Hock and Moselle, still or sparkling, 42s. to 48s.;  
Duff Gordons Sherries, 36s.; Dinner ditto, 36s.; Ports from the  
wood, 28s. to 32s.; Crusted, 36s. to 42s.; unqualified, 48s. to 54s.  
All delivered carriage free to the railway stations, or within five  
miles of the City. Terms, cash. Remember the address is JOHN  
WHITE, 34, Dowgate-hill, Cannon-street, City.

**COALS, 32s. Best.**—R. S. DIXON and

SON.—We feel called upon to notice a letter in the Times  
of November 29, written by Messrs. Cockerell and Co., in answer  
to "Pater Familias," which is calculated to injure us in our busi-  
ness. The statement we object to is as follows:—"And as the  
coal merchant does not know where to go but to the coal market  
for the purchase of his coals, and has no option left but to pay the  
market price, it is utterly impossible for him to sell the best coals  
at a lower price (than themselves), unless he cheat the public by  
short weight or gross adulteration." Speaking of the trade  
generally, that statement as to purchasing is correct; but it is not  
true with regard to us. We do not purchase our best Coals in the  
market—nor have we for many years—but in the North, and  
bring them to London in, and deliver them to the public direct  
from our own ships, by which we save various items enumerated  
by Messrs. C. and Co. (Independent of the profit of our shipping),  
and we give our customers the benefit of 1s. per ton out of our  
extra profits, without "either cheating the public by short weight  
or gross adulteration," which sufficiently demonstrates the possi-  
bility of selling the best coals under their price. Messrs. C. and  
Co. and the whole trade are aware we are exceptions from the  
general rule.

R. S. DIXON and SON, PROVIDENCE WHARF, BELVE-  
DERE-ROAD, LAMBETH.



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IS THE BEST SUBSTITUTE FOR SOLID SILVER.

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**THIS** unrivalled production continues to give the same satisfaction as when first introduced by SARL and SONS, ten years ago. From its intrinsic value, and brilliant appearance, it far surpasses all other substitutes for solid silver. A new and magnificent stock has just been completed for the present season, to which public inspection is respectfully invited. It comprises SPOONS and FORKS, CORNER DISHES and COVERS, DISH COVERS, EPERGNEs and CANDELABRA with Beautiful Figures and Classical Designs, TEA and COFFEE EQUIPAGES, CRUET FRAMES, CAKE BASKETS, CANDLESTICKS, SALVERS, TEA TRAYS, DECANTER STANDS, LIQUEUR FRAMES, TEA URNS and KETTLES, SOUP and SAUCE TURENS, with every article requisite for the Dinner, Tea, or Breakfast Service. Pamphlets, containing drawings and prices of all the articles, gratis, and sent postage free to all parts of the kingdom. Any article may be had separately as a sample.

SOLE INVENTORS AND MANUFACTURERS,  
SARL and SONS, 18, POULTRY,  
(Near the MANSION HOUSE), LONDON.

LONDON MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

At a SPECIAL PUBLIC MEETING, holden at EXETER HALL, on WEDNESDAY, November 30, with a View to the Enlargement of the Society's Operations in China, The Earl of SHAFTESBURY in the Chair;

It was resolved:—  
The motion of the Rev. Dr. LEITCHFIELD; seconded by the Rev. Canon CHAMBERS, Rector of Whitechapel:—  
I. That this meeting, devoutly acknowledging Jehovah the Most High over all the earth, contemplates with wonder and awe the present operations of His Providence in China; by which the animating hope is encouraged, that the system of idolatry, which with deadly force has prevailed for many centuries throughout that vast Empire, is about to be overthrown, and the millions of its inhabitants, hitherto shut up in Pagan darkness, to become accessible to the ministers of Christ and the power of His Gospel.

Moved by the Rev. J. ANGELL JAMES; seconded by Sir EDWARD NORTH BUXTON, Bart.; and sustained by the Rev. JOHN ALDIS:—

II. That this meeting renders its grateful praise to the God of all grace for the honour He has conferred on the London Missionary Society, in making it instrumental during the last forty-six years in sending forth upwards of thirty faithful and laborious missionaries, with a view to the salvation of China; for the invaluable services which he has enabled them to render, especially in the translation of the Holy Scriptures; and for the success with which he has crowned their efforts in the formation of Christian Churches, and the preparation of Christian agents for the extension of the Gospel among their countrymen.

Moved by the Rev. Dr. ARCHER; seconded by the Rev. J. BALDWIN BROWN:—

III. That the present state and prospects of China demand from the friends of the London Missionary Society the most energetic measures for the purpose of adding at least ten new labourers to the present number of its missionaries; and to accomplish this important object, the Directors be instructed to present an urgent application to affluent friends of the Society, for their generous contributions, and also to the pastors and officers of the several Churches affiliated with the Society, for simultaneous collections on the fourth Sabbath in January next.

Moved by Sir CULLING E. EARDLEY, Bart.; seconded by the Rev. T. H. BROOKS, Rector of Avening:—

IV. That the best thanks of this meeting be presented to the Right Hon. the Earl of Shaftesbury for his kindness in presiding on the present occasion, and conducting the business of the meeting.

CONTRIBUTIONS TOWARDS THE ENLARGEMENT OF THE SOCIETY'S OPERATIONS IN CHINA.

Joseph East, Esq.	£200 0 0
William Flanders, Esq.	200 0 0
Thomas Thompson, Esq.	100 0 0
Sir C. E. Eardley, Bart.	100 0 0
E. Baxter, Esq.	100 0 0
T. M. Coombs, Esq.	100 0 0
A Country Manufacturer	100 0 0
Friend of Missions	100 0 0
John Finch, Esq.	100 0 0
Seth Smith, Esq.	100 0 0
Eusebius Smith, Esq.	100 0 0
Joshua Wilson, Esq.	100 0 0
C. J. Bovan, Esq.	50 0 0
F. W. Cobb, Esq.	50 0 0
W. M. Newton, Esq.	50 0 0
Mrs. Smith, Bath	50 0 0
Rev. E. T. Frost	50 0 0
G. B.	50 0 0
Mrs. Broadley Wilson	50 0 0
S. M. Peto, Esq., M.P.	30 0 0
Dr. Hobson, of Canton	25 0 0
Sir E. N. Buxton, Bt.	25 0 0
Friends to Missions	20 0 0
Rev. Dr. Burder	10 10 0
Mrs. Hall	10 0 0
The Earl of Shaftesbury	10 0 0
H. S. Nash, Esq.	10 0 0
Rev. James Sherman	10 0 0
Mrs. Elliott	10 0 0
W. Harvey, Esq.	10 0 0
J. Hassall, Esq.	10 0 0
R. Maynard, Esq.	10 0 0
E. F.	10 0 0
James Vallance, Esq.	10 0 0
John Viney, Esq.	10 0 0
Collection at Exeter Hall	61 14 1
Ditto at St. Thomas's-square, Hackney	40 3 0

Additional Contributions will be most thankfully received by the Directors and Officers of the Society, at the Mission House, Blomfield-street, Finsbury.

ARTHUR TIDMAN, } Secretaries.  
EBENEZER PROUT, }  
Mission House, Blomfield-street, Dec. 6, 1853. 2130

JUVENILE DELINQUENCY.

A CONFERENCE will be held at DEE'S ROYAL HOTEL, Birmingham, on TUESDAY MORNING, the 20th of December last, at Ten a.m., in reference to proceedings in the approaching Session of Parliament for establishing REFORMATORIES for YOUNG CRIMINALS throughout the kingdom.

The Right Hon. Sir John S. PAKINGHAM, Bart., M.P., will preside; and all who feel interested are earnestly invited to attend.

Arrangements have been made for the reception of Visitors, who are requested to communicate with the Town Clerk, either previously to or on arrival at Birmingham.

The Conference will be followed by a Public Meeting in the Town Hall at Seven o'clock p.m., when the Right Hon. the Earl of SHAFTESBURY will preside.

TO NERVOUS SUFFERERS.—A Retired

Clergyman having been restored to health in a few days, after many years of great Nervous Suffering, is anxious to make known to others the means of cure. Will therefore send, free, on receiving a stamped Envelope, properly addressed, a copy of the Prescription used. Direct, the Rev. E. DOUGLASS, 18, Holland-street, Brixton, London.

EDUCATION for a limited number of Boarders. Terms moderate. For Prospectus apply to S. ROBINSON, Training-school, Emsworth.

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**THE MIDLAND SCHOOL,** near Coventry, for Gentlemen, is conducted on rational and Christian principles. For a full Prospectus, apply to Mr. WYLES

**MILL-HILL SCHOOL,** Hendon, Middlesex.

Head Master, Rev. PHILIP SMITH, B.A.  
Applications for the admission of pupils, and for preliminary information, may be made to the Head Master, or to the Secretary. The first session of 1854 will commence on Monday, January 30 By order of the Committee, ALGERNON WELLS, Secretary.

**PORTLAND GRAMMAR SCHOOL, PLYMOUTH.** Conducted by Mr. R. F. WEYMOUTH, M.A. (London), M.R.A.S. &c., &c.

**THE higher Mathematical Classes** receive the benefit of the superintendence and lectures of the REV. PROFESSOR NEWTH, M.A., Fellow of University College, London, author of "Elements of Statics," &c.

The course of studies pursued is suitable, as preparatory either for a college course, or for professional or commercial life. The house is very healthily situated in the highest part of the town, and close to the northern outskirts, but at a convenient distance for sea-bathing.

100, MARY-STREET, WEYMOUTH, DORSET.  
**SEA-SIDE EDUCATIONAL ESTABLISHMENT FOR YOUNG LADIES.**

Number limited to Ten.  
Conducted by Miss SMITH; assisted by Miss COBBIN.

**THE System of Instruction** is the result of considerable experience; comprising every branch of English Education—the French Language, Writing and Arithmetic, all kinds of Needlework, Music and Singing, Drawing in several styles, and Painting.

Terms, 24 Guineas per annum, inclusive of Laundress and Sea-bathing.

Weymouth has long been celebrated as a place favourable to the health and vigour of the Young.

The House is conveniently situated for Sea-bathing, and is contiguous to the best roads for Rural Walks.

The Pupils enjoy much of the pastoral care, and also the Conversational Lectures on Scientific subjects, of the Rev. J. Smith, Minister of Nicholas-street Chapel.

References to Parents of Pupils, and several ministers. Accessible by South Western Railway.

EDUCATION.

**AT a SPECIAL MEETING** of Mr. DUNNING'S STRATFORD and PLAISTOW CLASS, held October 14, 1853.

It was resolved,—  
"That the members of this class cannot close the present course of lessons on the art of teaching, without expressing to Mr. Dunning their high sense of the value of his instructions, and the urbanity of his conduct. His full stores of knowledge, his patient consideration of our difficulties, and his practical wisdom in guiding us to truth in thinking and acting, have given him that influence with his class which is only possessed by the best teachers. The manner in which Mr. Dunning treats his subject, first expounding and illustrating the great principles of education, which springs from the constitution of human nature, and then following them out patiently into their minute applications to the daily work of the teacher, is such as could only be the result of long observation, and much original thought. A striking illustration of the interest felt by all the class, is the fact that, to the end of the fifty lessons, two teachers of private schools were constantly present, from a distance of eight miles; and one lady, a governess, was equally constant, who had to walk four miles each way."

By order of the Class, JOHN CURWEN, M. A. CROSSLAND.

N.B. Mr. Dunning's address is 14, Cambridge-terrace, Barnsbury Park, Islington; or Home and Colonial Training Institution, Gray's-Inn-road.—Mr. D. is forming Mothers' Classes, and Sunday-school Teachers' Classes.

STIRLING TRACT ENTERPRISE.

Commenced 1848.—The Ninth Million of the Tracts is in Progress. They bear on the Sabbath, on Temperance, and all subjects connected with Vital Religion. They are going out daily in all directions, by means of sales and gratuitously.—The Series now amounts to about 360, and is always increasing.—Prices from 6d. to 2s. 6d. per 100.

"The Field is the World."—"The Seed is the Word."

PETER DRUMMOND, Seedsman.  
"British Messenger" Office, and Tract Depot, Stirling, N.B., December, 1853.

GOLD AND SILVER WATCHES.

**SARL and SONS, WATCH MANUFACTURERS, 18, POULTRY** (near the Mansion House), invite attention to their new and very extensive STOCK of GOLD and SILVER WATCHES. The patterns are of the latest style, and the movements of the most highly-finished description. Every make can be had. The following prices will convey an outline of the Stock, combining economy with quality:—

	Gold Cases and Dials.	Silver Cases.
Watches of the Horizontal make, jewelled in four holes, maintaining power, 1st size.....	£ 5 10 0	£ 3 18 0
Ditto, 2nd size.....	7 10 0	3 3 0
Ditto, 3rd size.....	8 10 0	3 10 0
Patent lever movements, detached escapements, jewelled in four or six holes, 2nd size.....	9 9 0	3 18 0
Ditto, with the flat, fashionable style, with the most highly-finished movements, jewelled in ten extra holes, 3rd size.....	14 14 0	5 18 0

A written warranty for accurate performance is given with every watch, and a twelvemonth's trial allowed. A very extensive and splendid assortment of fine gold neck-chains; charged according to the weight of sovereigns.

A pamphlet containing a list of the prices of the various articles in gold and silver, may be had gratis.—Address,

SARL and SONS, 18, POULTRY,  
(Near the MANSION HOUSE) LONDON.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN,** that the following CLASSICAL SUBJECTS have been selected for Examination in this University in the year 1855: viz.—

For the MATRICULATION EXAMINATION:  
XENOPHON—Hellenics, Book I.  
CICERO—Pro Milone.

For Examination for the Degree of BACHELOR OF ARTS:  
DEMOSTHENES—Speech against Leptines.  
TACITUS—Agricola; Germania; Histories, Book I.

By order of the Senate,  
R. W. ROTHMAN, Registrar.  
Somerset House, December 1, 1853.

HENRY VINCENT IN LONDON.—

TWO ADDRESSES will be delivered by the above celebrated Lecturer, in the Large Room of the SOUTH ISLINGTON BRITISH SCHOOLS, DENMARK-TERRACE, LIVERPOOL-ROAD, on MONDAY and TUESDAY EVENINGS, the 19th and 20th of December. Lecture I.—"The Great Exhibition of Industry in Relation to the Progress of the British People." Lecture II.—"Responsibilities imposed by this Age upon the People of Great Britain." Doors open at half-past Seven, commence at a quarter-past Eight o'clock.—Admission 6d.—Reserved seats 1s.

HOUSEHOLDERS' AND GENERAL

LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.—Money received on Deposit at 5 per cent. Interest, payable half-yearly in April and October. RICHARD HODSON, Secretary.  
15 and 16, Adam-street, Adelphi, London.

THE LONDON AND PROVINCIAL

PROVIDENT SOCIETY.—For Assuring a Weekly Sum during Sickness, with or without Medical Attendance; Endowments for Children, payable at a given age; and a certain Amount at Death. With a Guarantee Fund of £10,000, in 5,000 Shares of £2 each.

JESSE HOBSON, Esq., Managing Director.  
Offices, 19, Moorgate-street, where Prospectuses and every other information may be obtained of W. H. BONNER, Secretary.

SAFE INVESTMENT FOR MONEY.

INTEREST, SIX PER CENT.

PERPETUAL INVESTMENT, LAND,

AND BUILDING SOCIETY.

37, NEW BRIDGE-STREET, BLACKFRIARS.

PROGRESS OF THE SOCIETY,  
Shares Issued, 4,957.  
Advanced upon Mortgage, £31,763 17 8.

Tail's Magazine.—"The tables are ably prepared, and offer ample security."

JOHN EDWARD TRESSIDER, Secretary.

SAVINGS' BANK DEPARTMENT OF

the PERPETUAL INVESTMENT LAND and BUILDING SOCIETY.

37, NEW BRIDGE-STREET, BLACKFRIARS.

The Directors, being desirous of extending the advantages of the above Society to all classes, have decided upon opening a Branch for the Deposit of Savings, upon the following terms; viz.—

That deposits be received in sums of £1 and upwards, bearing interest at the rate of 4 per cent. per annum.

That the Interest be payable at the Office of the Society on the 30th of April and on the 31st of October in each year.

Interest not claimed prior to the 1st day of June or the 1st day of December in each year, will be added to the principal and interest paid thereon.

Deposits will be returned upon the following notice:—When the amount repaid does not exceed £50, one week's notice; from £50 to £200, one month's notice; from £200 to £500, two month's notice; exceeding £500, three months' notice.

Each depositor will be furnished with a Deposit Book at the cost of 3d. each.

Deposits received and paid daily between the hours of Ten and Four, and on Wednesdays from Ten to Eight.

A prospectus sent upon receipt of one postage-stamp.

JOHN EDWARD TRESSIDER, Secretary.

NATIONAL FREEHOLD-LAND

SOCIETY.

WEEKLY REPORT, December 10, 1853.

	Last Totals.	During the Week.	Present Totals.
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Cash received. £672,175 15 8 £6,511 3 0 £678,686 18 8

Shares issued. 69,653 522 70,175

VALID SHARES DRAWN DURING THE WEEK.

43,966, 61,577, 14,484, 21,229, \*33,251, to \*33,252, 65,123, 33,610, 50,310, 68,530, 60,566, 24,129, 66,293, 51,762, \*34,103 to \*34,106, \*58,781, to \*58,783, 55,007, 60,129, 63,510, 59,269, 36,143, 63,702, 39,136 \*32,577, to \*32,578, 4,951, \*65,410 to \*65,418, 49,260, 31,891, 39,198, 65,134, 39,323, 64,974, 57,749, 52,250, 19,064, \*67,080 to \*67,089, 53,843, 37,152, \*5,902 to \*5,904, \*69,155 to \*69,159, 48,701, \*8,997, 61,011, 62,635, \*62,268 to \*62,270, 6,290, 54,043, 66,840, 68,142, 53,508, \*49,387 to \*49,391, 52,943, 56,964, 54,420 to 54,424.

\* Grouped.

The shares numbered 51,084, 37,492, 47,823, 54,938, 57,717, 55,503, 58,780, 61,521, 45,103, 31,825, 26,535, 32,944, 30,805, 4,218, 45,032, 31,703, 25,198, 55,196, 36,841, 62,598, 51,459, 6,135, 36,290, 53,838, 42,344, 40,691, and 50,917 were also drawn, but as the subscriptions thereon were in arrears, the holders thereof have lost the benefit of this drawing. Copies of the Prospectus, Rules, and last Annual Report, may be obtained at the Office, or by post, gratis.

W. E. WHITTINGHAM, Secretary.

14, Moorgate-street.



# THE Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XIII.—NEW SERIES, NO. 424.]

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1853

[PRICE 6d.]

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## Ecclesiastical Affairs.

### THE GOLDEN BAIT, AND THE FISH THAT SEIZE IT.

SIDNEY SMITH it was, we believe, who pleaded for the retention of the "great prizes" in the Church of England, on the ground of the inducement they presented to the sons of noble and wealthy families to take "holy orders." What might be his notion of the object of a Christian Church, or of the special vocation of a clergyman, it would perhaps be uncharitable to deduce from the above sentiment; but anything more incongruous with the general drift, or the special teachings, of New Testament Christianity, it would be difficult, perhaps impossible, to imagine. Simon Magus, after all, was not far wrong, if the Rev. Sidney Smith was right. There was a very close similarity of opinion between the two worthies. Each appears to have entertained a vast notion of the money power in religious affairs, and neither seems to have dreamt of the slightest incompatibility between the two. Simon supposed he might open to himself the door of spiritual office by means of money. Smith wished to entice men to enter that door for the sake of money. "None can go in," thought Simon, "but by gold." "None will come in," thought Smith, "but for gold." Which of the two was guilty of the more impious absurdity it is not for us to decide—but to the latter, as well as to the former, the Church might well say with emphasis, "Thy money perish with thee!"

"Great prizes," "noble families," "holy orders!" What an association of ideas! What an utter absence of every spiritual sentiment does it convey! What a mean, grubbing, degraded, miserable idea does it present of ministerial functions! A work which God has appointed to be done, in mercy to mankind, and in tender solicitude for souls, must be *honoured*, forsooth, when undertaken by any of the connexions of aristocracy. "My lord's" patronage of Christianity is not to be lightly esteemed. He gives respectability to what, but for his sanction, would be regarded as low and vulgar. Let him but be prevailed upon to preach the everlasting Gospel, and Belgravia, perchance, will listen. But who can expect such condescension? What motive will be potent enough to turn a noble lord into a minister of the lowly Jesus? Sidney Smith knew but of one—cash. "Tempt them," says he in effect, "tempt them with large sums; they are worth catching—they are not to be had for a trifle—nothing but 'great prizes' will

induce them to quit the world for the Church." A cooler, more impudent, more revolting display of a huckster's spirit in religious matters, has never been witnessed since the tables of the money-changers were overturned in the temple.

An illustration of the spiritual benefit derived by the Church from these "great prizes," and the sort of clergy they secure, is obtruded upon us just now by proceedings instituted against the Rev. Earl of Guilford, Master of St. Cross, Rector of St. Mary's, Rector of Alresford, and Prebend of Winchester. This lordly and reverend pluralist, the son of Brownlow, Bishop of Winchester, consented, many years ago, to shed upon the Christian ministry the lustre of his name—of course, "for a consideration." He formed, it will be seen, a tolerably high estimate of the service which he thus performed to the Church by becoming a clergyman of it, and compelled her to pay handsomely for the honour of his conversion. Since the happy moment when he took upon him "holy orders," he has received from the living of St. Mary's about 121,900*l.*, exclusive of glebe, fees, and an excellent house. This, however, was not enough—so he took from Alresford, within the same period, and with like additional perquisites, about 80,000*l.* more. His boundless capacity for the good things of this life was yet unfulfilled—he has pocketed from his prebendal stall about 20,000*l.* more. The earl's right reverend father still considered his noble son inadequately provided for—and therefore, by a dexterous evasion of law, he gave him the mastership of St. Cross Hospital, which has produced him somewhere about 90,000*l.* more. It thus appears that the Rev. the Earl of Guilford has received, from the Church of which he is a minister, about 312,000*l.*, exclusive of comfortable pickings, during the forty years of his devotion to sacred things, or at the modest rate of 7,800*l.* a year. Surely, his zeal for truth ought to have been proportionate, and the influence of his holy example upon the aristocracy amongst whom he moves ought to have been supremely edifying. We shall see.

Bishop Brownlow, accepting literally the apostolic declaration, that "he who provideth not for his own household has denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel," resolved to be as far off from any danger of disregarding it, as chances would allow him. He knew that his beloved Francis was already in possession of the livings of St. Mary's and Alresford, and he was aware that law forbade an addition to his son's ecclesiastical responsibilities. Now the mastership of St. Cross Hospital was an office which invited the exercise of episcopal ingenuity. It *had* been ecclesiastical, with a cure of souls; but it might be treated as a lay office, for the dispensation of charity. If it were the former, the Earl of Guilford has illegally enjoyed the proceeds—if the latter only, Chancery may rectify the misappropriation of charitable funds. It would occur to most that the Earl of Guilford must know in which of these two senses he was instituted by his father—but in both he could hardly be. And yet the Reverend Earl, so long as it suited his purpose to deny an illegal pluralism, maintained stoutly in 1832, "I have no cure of souls, nor was I inducted into the church belonging to the institution;" and again, "that he had not been inducted—that he was not rector of St. Faith—that he had no clerical office in his mastership, and that it was not ecclesiastical"—while, according to the *Times*, "of his own accord, he prepares himself for the close atmosphere of the Rolls Court, by

doffing the rich furs and comfortable clothing of Alresford and St. Mary's, by incontinently swearing 'that the mastership is an ecclesiastical benefice, to which he was instituted and inducted, and read in in the church, in January 4, 1808.'

On this contradiction we give the comment of the *Times* :—

How, then, stands the case with Lord Guilford? His lordship declares on oath that "he was instituted, inducted, and read in on one day, January 4, 1808." Well, if institution means anything it means the delegation of a cure of souls, and accordingly when Brownlow, Bishop of Winchester, instituted Dr. Lockman, he said, "We do by these presents commit unto you the care and government (*curam et regimen*) of the parishioners of St. Cross, with the rectory of St. Faith united." Twenty years afterwards, in collating his own son to the same office, the Bishop ignored the souls of the parishioners, and simply said,—"We canonically institute you into the office of Master." Our own opinion is, that such an institution to such a benefice is worthless; and every one will ask whether it was from honest or from fraudulent motives that the father and son conspired to go through a colourable instead of an efficient investiture. But, beyond this, when Brownlow instituted his son's immediate predecessor to the cure of souls, &c., he issued a mandate for his induction, a document already published by us. Thereupon, the inductor did "effectually induct him into the real, actual, and corporeal possession of the mastership with the rectory," and duly certified and registered the transaction. Where, then, are the mandate of induction and the certificate of completion consequent upon Lord Guilford's institution? In the face of his recent oath we recoil from the idea that the noble Earl was not inducted, and yet when we call to mind his words in 1832—"I have no cure of souls, nor was I inducted into the church belonging to the institution"—recollecting this, and shocked and staggered as we are, still, notwithstanding his oath, we are driven, whether we will or not, to the conclusion that he was not legally inducted on January 4, 1808.

Under any circumstances, we think it will be generally admitted that men of the Earl of Guilford's stamp do unspeakable mischief not merely to the Established Church, but to religion. But then, it is to just that class of men that "great prizes" offer attractions. The Church, with the settled approbation of her rulers, puts a golden bait on the hook of "holy orders"—and then wonders that she pulls up mere seekers of worldly pelf. She tempts idle men into the ranks of her clergy by not a few splendid incomes, and thinks herself entitled to complain that they do not turn out hard-working, disinterested, and self-sacrificing preachers of the Gospel to the poor. She resorts to bribery, but protests against its certain results, with all the energy of an extreme purist. Now, we have no sort of sympathy with the Guilfords, the Prettypmans, and the Moores, of our national ecclesiastical system—but we do say that they might logically defend their creed far more easily than most of the Churchmen who cry shame upon them could justify their complaints. What is to be expected but greedy men, when you lay out your lines for the express object of catching them? Lord Guilford has a right to protest against the unfairness which first left "great prizes" to entice men of his class into the sacred office, and afterwards found fault with his appropriation and enjoyment of them.

Many a devout Churchman, we know, would heartily join us in denouncing the existing system as unjust, absurd, and irreligious. But how do the Reformers hope to alter it? What force will they bring to bear of sufficient power to secure a wise distribution of ecclesiastical revenue? They are in this dilemma: a rectification of anomalies in the Establishment, and the conversion of it to a purely spiritual agency, will not suit the aristocracy, nor will it rouse the enthusiasm of the people. To ensure success, Church reformers should propose either less than this or more. If less, the higher class may think it hardly worth their while



to oppose the change. If more, the people may think it worth their while to insist upon it. But to excite the alarm of the nobility, without conciliating the confidence of the commonalty, is but to provoke an unequal contest, and to make sure of "falling between two stools."

#### THE MILTON CLUB.

Messrs. Bateman and Bennett have been as far north as Edinburgh, on their mission to promote the success of this institution, and their labours in that city appear to have been very successful. "If success is to be measured by the effect produced upon the audience (says the *Edinburgh News*), never was the success of any deputation more complete. We, in common with nearly all the Dissenters of Scotland, had great doubts of the advantages of such an institution to us, and were therefore indifferent about the subject. Such even on Wednesday morning in the side-room was the all but universal opinion of those assembled; but after the statements of the deputation doubt was changed into decision, and apathy gave place to action among a class of men not usually moved without strong reasons. After explaining the anticipated advantages of the club—not to the cause of Nonconformity alone, although, as was shown, to that also its benefits would be immediate and abundant, but the advantages it offered as a means for economising the time, and labour, and pecuniary resources of those great objects and institutions which evangelical religion had created, and which Nonconformist energy and liberality supported and sustained, combined with the great personal advantages it presented to those who even seldom visited London—every gentleman became convinced that if this club be established and carried on in the spirit of Mr. Bateman's speech, it will become a great and enduring blessing, not only to Nonconformity and Nonconformist gentlemen, but that it also will become a strong propelling power to those high and holy ends which all Nonconformist benevolence is labouring to attain, either in Great Britain or in the colonies, or on the continent of Europe. In this aspect it ceases to be a mere place where London gentlemen can go and read the papers, and where country members may, if they choose, visit once a year, and becomes a great central reservoir into which the world's facts as to benevolence, and Britain's facts respecting the wants, interesting, dangers, and successes of Nonconformity will be continually pouring, to be drawn out as convenience or necessity may dictate, and from which will issue forth large streams of benevolence for the purification and refreshing of the nations. That these results are not altogether visionary is best illustrated by the fact that such men as the chairman, Bailie Fyfe, ex-Bailie Duncan, Councillor R. S. Grieve, Mr. Thos. Russell, and others who came doubting, embarked 50*l.* each in order to establish the club, and that scarcely one among the thirty or forty gentlemen present left without either becoming a member or declaring his intention of following that course. In short, our indifference to the success or non-success of this undertaking has been destroyed by this deputation, and we ask all our Nonconformist friends to follow the example of those gentlemen who either became debenture holders of 50*l.* each, or who, unable or unwilling to do that, enrolled themselves as members of the Milton Club."

#### THE PRESS AND THE SOCIETY FOR THE LIBERATION OF RELIGION.

Several of our monthly contemporaries either report the proceedings of the late Conference, or offer criticism upon them. The *Eclectic Review*, an old friend of the society, writes thus:—

"The meeting was numerously attended, and its proceedings were conducted with much temper and sound judgment. So far from their being any manifestation of indifference, or disposition to abandon the work of organised efforts for the liberation of religion from State patronage and control, the members of the Conference renewed their pledge to prosecute the work to a successful issue, and evinced an earnest zeal which affords good promise of future labour."

Respecting the change of name, the writer says:—

"We shall be glad to find that the alteration is attendant with the advantages anticipated. But we have our misgivings. We do not believe that it is the name of the society which has prevented the adhesion of Dissenters generally. There are other and deeper causes which have operated, and these will continue, we fear, to keep many aloof from its fellowship."

The *United Presbyterian Magazine* says, that "notwithstanding the numerous difficulties which it encountered, the association has made no small progress, since it was launched upon the world. It has gained experience, and it has also acquired power. It has learned, that the message which it has to proclaim to the British public is sufficiently offensive, without its being made more so by the manner in which it is expressed. It has made the discovery, that is made by all truly wise and earnest men, that it is not the machine which makes the most noise which does the most effective work. Much of this improvement was marked during this third triennial conference. There was no want of the wonted firmness, but there was a greater dignity. There was the calm consciousness of a power which could afford to dispense with the lower elements of our nature, and which made its appeal to the higher elements. There was less talk than usual, but more work. It was more a business than a speaking conference. The discussion on the change of name was conducted, however, with a becoming spirit. The reasons for the alteration easily suggest themselves. The old name brings into view merely the destructive element in the society, and ignores its constructive element. It tells us, that we are to pull down national churches,

but it says nothing as to whether any others are to be put in their place. It presents nothing but the negative aspect of the question, while the positive is utterly kept out of sight. It is, no doubt, true, that many positive truths are expressed in a negative form; but if this be, as it sometimes is, a necessity, it is a painful necessity. It presents truth in an unlovable, because in an antagonistic, form. We must confess, that we scarcely share in the anticipations of some speakers at the Conference, that the proposed alteration will bring an accession to their numbers from those Dissenters, who, up to this time have declined to join the movement. We shall be glad, if mistaken in this. But we anticipate some good from it, as indicating a change as to the mode, in which this great controversy has sometimes been conducted. There was scarcely a speaker who did not regret that of late years there had been a tendency in public meetings to exclude the high and religious argument, and to make an appeal to lower principles, dragging Voluntaryism through the mire of worldly politics."

The London correspondent of the *Christian Journal* has packed into a small compass all the leading facts brought out in the report and in the papers read at the Conference, and the *Baptist Magazine*, gives considerable space to the matter, inserting the report and the new constitution in *extenso*. The *Christian Spectator* cannot profess satisfaction with "the cumbrous, yet indefinite, denomination" now borne by the society, but heartily concurs in all the changes effected in its constitution. We may add here a reference to some articles on the subject in the daily and weekly papers which were not noticed on a former occasion.

The *Watchman*, the organ of Conference Methodism, while it regards the late Conference as having offered but "an undistinguished muster and trifling results," so far as the object in view is concerned, thinks that the indirect and evil results have not been trifling, "as might be gathered from the speech of one of the few Congregational ministers present, who had come warm from the sittings of the Evangelical Conference, to fraternise with the spirits of the Anti-State-Church Association." Having abandoned the society's fundamental principle, the journalist contends that "the liberators of religion have given up Christianity itself as in any way distinctively belonging to their society." He finally dismisses "the matter of the Triennial Conference of Anti-Church" with the conviction that "when it becomes evident that it has dwindled to the status of a political agitation, represented by a few small notables in the Commons, whatever interest any of our readers may have felt regarding it will subside to a very low degree."

The *Morning Herald*, in an article, respectful enough in its tone, comforted its readers with the inference that the society's change of name indicated weakness and failure, and thinks the one now chosen a very inapplicable one. What it wants to know is, how members of a Christian Government can shake off their obligations as Christian men to advance religion by all means in their power?

#### OUR CHURCH-RATE RECORD.

##### PROMISED MEASURE ON CHURCH-RATES.

A deputation from the Protestant Dissenting deputies of the three denominations had an interview with Lord Aberdeen on Friday last, on the subject of the abolition of Church-rates. The memorial to his lordship referred, amongst other facts, to a return obtained by Sir R. H. Inglis, and published by the House of Commons, on the 12th May, 1852, which sets forth the number of Church-rates required, made, or refused, from 1833 to 1851, in each city and Parliamentary borough in England and Wales (which include 1,020 parishes and extra-parochial places), and their respective populations; from which return it appears that, after excluding the extra-parochial places, and parishes which have estates for the support of their Churches, and parishes which have local acts for keeping their churches in repair, the population of the cities and boroughs included in the return amounts to 6,365,351, out of which 2,845,954 pay Church-rates, and 3,519,387 refuse to pay them, thus making a majority of 673,433 of non-rate-payers. The deputation urged on his lordship the urgent necessity of the abolition of Church-rates being taken up by Her Majesty's Government in the ensuing session. His lordship admitted the necessity, under the present circumstances, of some alteration in the law, and asked what the deputation required. They replied that they desired total abolition. To his lordship's inquiry, as to what substitute was proposed, he was referred to pew-rents, and the proceeds of improved Ecclesiastical property, as was stated in Sir Wm. Clay's proposition to the House of Commons, during the last session, of which the deputation approved, whilst they disapproved of Mr. Phillimore's motion, which had been opposed before by Sir Robert Peel, and had been twice rejected by the House. His lordship said that the subject had been under the serious consideration of Her Majesty's Government, and that some measure would be introduced by them early in the ensuing session. His lordship was not prepared to state the plan which would be adopted to remedy the present evils, but he referred the deputation to the Home Secretary, Lord Palmerston, on the subject. The deputation consisted of the following gentlemen (Mr. Peto, the chairman, being unavoidably absent): Mr. Apsley Pellatt, M.P., Mr. T. Pettress, Mr. William Biddome, Mr. Ebenezer Clarke, Mr. J. Remington Mills, Mr. S. Morley, Mr. R. H. Terrell, Mr. Alderman and Sheriff Wire, and the Secretary, Mr. Hull Terrell.

##### REFUSAL OF A RATE.

There has been a vigorous attempt made at Headcorn, principally by the vicar and his lady, to levy a Church-rate on the inhabitants. The first meeting

was found to be illegal; consequently, on Wednesday, the 7th instant, the ratepayers were called together a second time. The vicar, who occupied the chair, read over the estimates, and stated that the church was in a dangerous state, &c. The churchwardens then proposed a rate of 9*d.* in the pound. After remarks from some present, and a show of hands, the names were taken down, when there appeared a large majority against the rate. A poll was demanded by the churchwardens, at the close of which the numbers were: for the rate, 78 votes; against it, 86. The majority of voters was, we believe, much greater. Headcorn has been noted for its opposition to Church-rates for the last fifteen years.

##### CHURCH RATES AT CHRISTCHURCH.

The town of Christchurch, Hants, has been the scene of unusual excitement, in consequence of the opposition offered to the making of a church-rate. It has long been considered a sore grievance that the tithes originally intended for parochial purposes, a mere fraction of which would cover all expenses arising from the worship of the parish church, should be diverted to private uses; the tithe-owner being the late Foreign Secretary, the Earl of Malmesbury, a nobleman whose connexion with the town is scarcely known except through the person of the tithe-collector, and the votes of his subservient tenantry at a Parliamentary election or a parish vestry. Up to this time, however, the churchwardens have been suffered to have their own way, in consequence of a general feeling that opposition would be useless. All that has been done by Dissenters has been by protest, or in an occasional motion in vestry without concert, or by the refusal on the part of a few to pay the rate. Now, however, in consequence of the recent decision of the House of Lords in the Braintree case, and of measures taken for the concentration of public opinion, the parish has at length been fairly moved to action.

The summons from the churchwardens respecting the vestry meeting having been posted on the doors of the Independent Meeting-house, as well as of the parish church, occasion was afforded for calling public attention to it from the pulpit, and of inviting all who felt interested to meet for deliberation on the subject. On the following day, a considerable number met together in the evening, and resolved to offer a united opposition to the rate. A yet larger meeting was held on Wednesday evening, Mr. George Aldridge being in the chair, when several addresses were delivered, and an unanimous determination evinced to prosecute the opposition with energy. The temper of the meeting was excellent.

The next day, Thursday, December the 1st, at twelve o'clock, the numbers assembled in the Priory Church were such as to necessitate adjournment from the small and inconvenient vestry-room to the Town Hall. The Vicar, the Rev. Mr. Burroughs, occupied the chair. Mr. Dale, one of the churchwardens, showed by the accounts that the sum of about 230*l.* would be required for the present year, which would be met by a rate of twopence-halfpenny in the pound. Mr. Drewitt, the parish lawyer, then rose for the purpose of moving that a rate should be made accordingly—stating in a few words, and without any attempt at argument, that he knew of no other method by which the sum required could be so easily raised. Mr. Baker, a tenant farmer, seconded the resolution in a speech of equal brevity.

The Rev. J. Fletcher then rose to move an amendment "that no rate be made." His speech, which occupied about half-an-hour in the delivery, was much applauded by the meeting. Mr. George Aldridge seconded the amendment in an effective speech. On putting the amendment to the meeting, a forest of hands was held up in favour of it, and some seven or eight against it. The anti-rate party had thus an overwhelming majority for the first time in the history of Christchurch. A poll was demanded by the pro-rate party, which was taken on Thursday and Monday. The Dissenters expected to be beaten at the poll by means of landlord and other influence. The tenants of Earl Malmesbury, Sir George Rose, Sir George Gervis, and others, were calculated upon as likely to vote for the rate. The Dissenters themselves, however, did their duty manfully, and, though beaten at the poll, showed a larger number of votes than had been expected.

A curious turn, however, and one quite unexpected, was given to the course of affairs, at the declaration of the poll on Monday afternoon. It was supposed that when the vicar declared the poll to be in favour of the rate, the contest would be ended; it was not so. Inasmuch as the amendment was not a direct negative to the original motion, he felt it his duty to put the original motion to the meeting, when again the show of hands was against the rate by an overwhelming majority. As on the former occasion, not more than a dozen hands were held up in favour of it. For a second time, therefore, the pro-raters were beaten. Again, however, they demanded a poll, which was to be open every day until last Saturday. The Dissenters, however, refused to go to the poll again, and have issued a declaration to that effect.

The Dissenters throw the whole responsibility of the poll on the churchwardens and the church-rate party; and, in the mean time, are adopting measures for enlightening their neighbours and fellow-parishioners on the merits of the question.

##### THE VOTES OF COTTAGE OCCUPIERS.

The Kettering Anti-Church-Rate Association have issued a handbill containing the following opinion given by Sir Fitzroy Kelly, and G. Hayes, Esq., on the qualification of their right to vote in a vestry called for the purpose of granting a Church-rate:—

"We think that the cottagers were entitled to vote. They were parishioners occupying property liable to be assessed to the Church-rate, and in this character we think they were entitled to be present and vote in vestry



summoned for the especial purpose of determining whether a Church-rate should be granted, unless it can be shown that this right has been clearly taken from them by some act of Parliament, and other parties enabled to rate them without their own consent.

"We think that the statutes bearing on the question fall short of producing any disfranchisement. The 'Small Tenements Rating Act' being confined to the Poor and Highway Rates, leaves the occupiers of such tenements liable to Church-rates as they were before.

"The 58 Geo. 3, c. 69, affords some countenance to the notion, that the being rated to the poor was a necessary qualification for the right of voting in vestry; but we think that its enactments do not in truth produce this consequence.

"The words of sec. 3 are affirmative only; they regulate the right of voting of the parishioners, who are assessed to the Poor-rate in a particular manner, but they do not disqualify those who are not. The disfranchising clauses in sec. 5 of that act, and sec. 3 of the 59 Geo. 3 (and which have been recently limited in effect by the 16 and 17 Vic., c. 65), have no application to the case of a voter who is not himself assessed to the Poor-rate.

"This being the state of the law, we think the right of the parties in question to vote on a question as to Church-rates must remain in them and exist (as in truth it did before the 43 Elizth.) irrespective of any enactment or liability as to Poor's-rate."

This being the opinion of the above eminent lawyers, as given by them upon the question arising out of the late Church-rate contest at Wrexham, it is clear from their judgment that your votes are good and valid.

#### A CHURCH-RATE RETURNED.

The *Leeds Mercury* records some strange proceedings that have taken place at Hook, a village two miles from Goole. On Easter Monday last, as was customary, a meeting was called to lay a Church-rate. Several Dissenters were present, and were resolved that the rate, if laid at all, should be small. Mr. Metcalf, gentleman, proposed, and Mr. Andrew Robinson, a respectable farmer, seconded, that the rate should be one penny in the pound. There being no amendment, it was carried. The collection of the rate commenced about three weeks ago. Half the parish had been visited, when the collector called upon the proposer of the rate, and demanded 2d. in the pound. Mr. Metcalf was justly indignant, and peremptorily refused payment, intimating, at the same time, that he should take some proceedings in the matter. Off went the collector, and, extraordinary as it may seem, half of the rate extorted has since been disgorged and returned to the whole of the parties that had paid.

#### THE OXFORD HEADS AND UNIVERSITY REFORM.

(From the *Morning Chronicle*.)

The Oxford Heads have issued the Report of their Committee on the recommendations of the Commission. It is an octavo volume of 500 pages, of which about 100 are occupied by the report, the rest by evidence. The principal evidence is that of Dr. Pusey (170 pages); the Rev. O. Gordon, of Christ Church; Mr. Marriott, of Oriel; the Rev. R. Hussey, of Christ Church; Dr. Hawkins, of Oriel; Dr. Cotton, of Worcester; and Mr. Justice Coleridge. The number of members of Convocation who have given their evidence is small, not exceeding twenty-one, besides a paper approving generally of the recommendations of the Commission, signed by eleven persons, most of whom had previously expressed their views to the Commission itself.

The principal recommendations and decisions are as follow:—

I. WITH REGARD TO STUDIES, EXAMINATIONS, PRIZES, AND SCHOLARSHIPS.—The Board decide that things should be left precisely as they are. They refuse to allow any part of the students' time to be devoted to an elementary professional course. They refuse to institute a University matriculation, and the only alteration of any importance to which they consent is the proposition to hold the examinations, as far as possible, in vacation. There are some changes with regard to University scholarships, &c.

II. DISCIPLINE.—The Report proposes to abolish promissory oaths to observe University statutes. It retains the distinction of gentlemen commoners. On the important subject of extravagance and debt, the authors of the Report concur in the observations of the Commissioners; but they have no practical measure at present to propose. The suggestion of the Commissioners, that Parliament should be applied to for an act to limit credit at the University, is before the University counsel, but their answer has not yet been received. It is proposed, in accordance with the recommendation of the Commission, to assimilate the practice and fees of the Vice-Chancellor's Court to those of the county courts, and to throw it open to all professional persons.

III. UNIVERSITY EXTENSION.—Private lodging-houses and private halls are rejected. Halls affiliated to the existing Colleges are approved. And it is recommended (by the majority of the Committee) that the University should vote 10,000*l.* to found an "independent" hall for sixty poor students; the grant to be united with voluntary contributions.

IV. REVENUES.—It is recommended that an annual balance-sheet of the general University accounts should be provided for members of Convocation, but that it should not be printed. The accounts of the press are not to be made public. A revision of fees has been referred to a Special Committee. An application to Government for permission to hold land in mortmain is recommended. Any restraint on the application of University funds, such as was proposed by the Commission, is condemned.

V. MUSEUMS AND LIBRARIES.—A museum is encouraged. The proposal to allow books to be taken out of the Bodleian is condemned. But it is thought that a reading-room might be provided. It is also proposed that in the five summer months the library should be open till five—an hour later than at present.

VI. PROFESSORS AND TEACHERS.—The Report proposes some professors of modern Oriental languages, and particularly a professorship of Chinese. Some alterations in detail are suggested with reference to the mode of election and stipends of some of the existing chairs. All application of college funds to the purposes of University

instruction is condemned. Of the University or professorial system of instruction generally, which the Commissioners recommend in contradistinction to the exclusive collegiate or tutorial system, it is said that "it tends to substitute information for education, and sciolism for religion." It is proposed to give professors some voice in the direction of their own studies, by including them in committees of the Hebdomadal Board for that special purpose.

VII. CONSTITUTION.—The Vice-Chancellorship is to be left as it is, in the absolute nomination of the Chancellor, and confined to the Heads of Houses. The proctors are to be elected for two years, instead of one, one going out at the end of each year. In other respects, their office is to remain much as it is.

All plans tending to supersede, or even materially to alter, the powers or constitution of the Hebdomadal Board, such as the "congregation" of the Commissioners, are rejected. But two plans of modification are proposed. Part of the Committee recommend an "Intermediate Board," consisting of the Vice-Chancellor, proctors, and twelve masters elected by ballot from Convocation, to consider measures between their adoption at the Hebdomadal Board and their proposal in Convocation, and also to recommend measures to the Hebdomadal Board; which measures, however, the Hebdomadal Board is not to be bound to adopt. This Intermediate Board appears to have virtually a veto on the measures of the Hebdomadal Board, but no power of initiation (except in the way of recommendation) or of amendment. The majority of the Committee, however, recommend, in preference to this scheme, the addition of eight members of Convocation, elected annually, to the Hebdomadal Board—two of the eight persons retiring, and their places being supplied, each year. It is expected that the suspended communication between the Initiative Board and the body of the University will be restored by the occasional appointments of delegations, including members of Convocation, on special subjects, and by the admission of professors to committees of the Hebdomadal Board, as above stated.

No power of amendment is to be given to Convocation, but an interval is to be allowed after the first promulgation of the more important measures, during which individual members of Convocation may send in "suggestions" to the Hebdomadal Board.

VIII. STATUTES.—It is decided that, in spite of all opinions to the contrary, the University has undoubted power to alter the Laudian code. But power to alter the three Caroline statutes, which are supposed to rest on a different foundation, is to be sought from the Crown.

The last ten pages of the Report are devoted to the Colleges. The Commissioners admit that the mode in which they applied for evidence was calculated to lead persons to suppose that they did not intend to go into this part of the subject. They have, however, received some evidence on the Colleges, but nothing very material; and they have gone into certain portions of the subject, but in a very partial manner. The tone of the report is throughout strongly hostile to the Commissioners, whose candour and accuracy it impeaches in strong terms. The voluminous evidence of Dr. Pusey will be read with interest. It is hostile to almost all the proposals of the Commissioners, and particularly to those which tend to relax clerical restrictions and to introduce the professorial system.

#### CHURCH REFORM.

The third lecture under the auspices of the Plymouth Church Reform Association was delivered by the Rev. Carr J. Glyn, M.A., rector of Witchampton, Dorsetshire, whose topic was "Christian Union, the sure fruit of Scriptural Church Reform." The lecture was long, and contained little of general interest. Mr. Glyn said that in the accomplishment of Church Reform, he thought the members of the Establishment should act alone.

The question we have in view is especially connected with the Church Establishment, and it may be found the path of wisdom only to have Churchmen united in this work, much as the union of Churchmen and Dissenters is to be delighted in and promoted upon great and momentous subjects in the Church of Christ; yet in this movement, every Dissenter will see that we had better carry it out ourselves, and we are confident we shall have the hearty prayers and good wishes of every pious intelligent Nonconformist. I have considered with many of my friends it is not the path of duty of the evangelical Churchman to quit the Establishment because of its admitted defects, but that we should endeavour to repair what requires immediate attention, lest the building may fall; it is for us to be aware that the party which is now advocating and spreading far and wide their deadly and pernicious errors would have their desire gratified if the evangelical body left the Church.

He concluded as follows:—

We hear of many objections to any revision of our services; some say we know not who may touch it, they may go too far, but we fear this reasoning may at last lead to the enemies of the Church acting instead of its friends. We wish to save the Church, not to destroy it, to remedy defects, not to deceive ourselves as to their existence. Others say, this is not the time! but what time better than when we have our gracious and beloved Queen on the throne, who is well known to be opposed to the errors of Tractarianism, and we have the English archbishops, who have been so identified in the struggle for the truth, as to the baptismal service; besides, there exists a growing feeling amongst the laity that something must be done, and that the present state of things cannot go on; how often we hear, even men of God, using arguments as to not altering our Liturgy, but at the same time stating they are not satisfied—their minds are not at rest; others say they have not time to enter into the question, and allow year after year to pass on without any attempt to amend what most good men would be thankful to see accomplished; some will not be satisfied with the most glaring defects being altered, and aim at such sweeping changes, that the minds of many are alarmed. The question often raised is, who is to make the alterations? The answer is, what history suggests. The Queen in Council, ordering a commission to be appointed, and such persons named by the archbishops! We are not engaged in a new thing—there is nothing visionary in our undertaking—we are not acting as unsound Churchmen—the effort is for the safety

of the Church. History informs us that revision has been necessary from time to time. Having referred to the several occasions on which the Prayer-book had been altered, and showed that a very slight alteration would suffice to restore union to the Church, he urged the importance of the most persevering effort being made by every scriptural, legal method, by clergy and laity united, to bring about the great object they desired.

THE PRIMATE OF IRELAND has withdrawn his name as a patron of the College of St. Columba, in consequence of the Rev. Mr. Williams, warden of the college, having signed the celebrated protest against Bishop Gobat, of Jerusalem. The step thus taken by a prelate so unobtrusive as the Archbishop of Armagh, will be regarded as a heavy blow by the fractional "High Church" party on this side of the channel.

THE VICARAGE OF CREDITON in Devon having become vacant by the death of the late vicar, no fewer than 260 clergymen have sent in applications. The appointment is in the gift of twelve governors, who have reduced the long list to seven names.

THE POWER OF THE CLERGY AS SCHOOL MANAGERS.—A Brighton correspondent of the *Daily News* writes as follows: It seems a clergyman, who is the sole manager of a national school, has a power which places him in a position totally different from that of other employers—in fact, above the law. In the case which has now come under my notice, this personage, who rightly calls himself "King, Lords, and Commons," has the management of schools which receive from the public revenue about 200*l.* a year. This money is paid yearly, for the augmentation of the teachers' salaries, through the hands of the clergyman, and he, it appears, can refuse these payments whenever he chooses, upon which the teachers have no means of redress, or even appeal. The clergyman I now refer to has proved his power on two victims. From the master who has conducted the boys' school for several years, he has just now in this way cut off from 30*l.* to 40*l.*, his Government pay for a whole year, or rather fifteen months, while the Committee of Privy Council kindly caution the master not to take legal measures against the gentleman, as they think, from the wording of the Minutes of 1846, that this is the manager's privilege. A clerical employer is allowed to say to his servants, "You have worked for me a year, but as I am not pleased with you, I shall give you no money." This is his "privilege." And this, too, is a part of a plan we adopt to raise a superior class of public teachers.

NOT "MERRY AS A WEDDING BELL."—The daughter of Mr. Howkins, a leading Dissenter at Spaldwick, Hunts, was recently married, and a request was made that the church bells might be rung on the occasion. The vicar refused, on the ground that the wedding having been celebrated in a Dissenting place of worship, it was a non-religious ceremony. It appears that Mr. Howkins is one of the greatest contributors to the repair of the church and its appurtenances, although the law is on the side of the vicar. When will Dissenters be independent enough to avoid these applications for services and advantages which the clergy have the power to refuse? A correspondent of the *Cambridge Independent* points out that the parishioners are not bound to provide a ring of bells, nor to repair them, without they like. All that is absolutely necessary is, that there must be a bell to summon the congregation to church, and to toll at funerals; nothing more. (3 Hagg. Rep. 16, and 1 Burn's Eccles. Law, 135.)

#### Religious and Educational Intelligence.

##### RECOGNITION OF THE REV. H. J. GAMBLE.

The recognition service, in connexion with the pastoral settlement of the Rev. H. J. Gamble, was held on Thursday last at Clapton Chapel. Every seat in the building was occupied, and the aisles were filled. The proceedings were commenced at twelve o'clock, by the Rev. John Jefferson, of Stoke Newington, who read a portion of Scripture and offered prayer.

The Rev. Thomas Binney then delivered a written discourse, which was listened to with the most profound attention. It treated somewhat largely of the improved style of architecture adopted by the Nonconformists of the present day in the erection of their chapels, and also of the subject of the partial adoption of a liturgical service in their worship, which had been suggested by some as desirable, in order to the promotion of an increase of devotional feeling on the part of the worshippers. Mr. Binney introduced a number of imaginary personages, into whose mouths he put the sentiments which were uttered on this and other debatable points that were advanced in the discourse, thus leaving it doubtful whether they were or were not the opinions entertained by himself. He was understood, however, to deprecate, in his own proper person—when alluding to the discussion of the liturgical question at Manchester—the practice of reporting to the world the free speech which is uttered at the meetings of the Union, by which, he said, some of the speakers were made the laughing-stock of the whole country. At the close of Mr. Binney's discourse, Mr. Capper, the senior deacon, read a statement which comprised the history of the Church up to the settlement of its present pastor. The Rev. H. J. Gamble then proceeded to give a brief outline of his religious creed and convictions, which was succeeded by a paternal address from the Rev. Dr. Collyer, founded on the words addressed by Joseph to his brother Benjamin. "God be gracious unto thee, my son!" The Rev. Dr. Burder having offered the recognition prayer, the Rev. George Smith delivered a devotional discourse; and the service was concluded with prayer, by the Rev. Mr. Davies, pastor of the Church assembling at the Old Gravel Pits Meeting House.



At half-past three o'clock, about two hundred ladies and gentlemen assembled at the Manor Rooms, Hackney, where an excellent and substantial dinner had been provided. George Marten, Esq., was called to the chair. Among the ministers and gentlemen present we observed the Revs. Dr. Burder, Dr. Campbell, Dr. Hewlett, Thomas Binney, Thomas James, Edward Mannering, Ebenezer Prout, George Smith, J. C. Gallaway, W. S. Edwards, W. Kirkus, G. Wilkins, J. C. Harrison, T. N. Goulty, J. de Kewer Williams, W. Wallace, Robert Philip, Mr. Davies, Thos. Timpson, J. Watson, Mr. Betts, Mr. Henry Bateman, Mr. Henry Rutt, sen., Mr. J. M. Hare, Mr. Capper, Mr. Atkinson, and many other gentlemen. Of course, much of the speaking consisted of testimony borne to the qualifications of Mr. Gamble. After a few remarks from the Rev. G. Smith, the chairman, in the name of the Church, presented very "cordial congratulations to the Rev. Henry John Gamble, upon the public recognition of that which has, to his Church and people, been long felt and enjoyed as a great blessing." During the whole of the past year they had very sensibly felt the benefit of Mr. Gamble's services, and the more they had known of him, the better they loved him, both as a public teacher and as a private friend. The recognition would have taken place much earlier had not Mr. Gamble been called upon to sustain a most trying affliction in the death of his child. The delay, however, had given the Church an opportunity to offer a more decided testimony of the manner in which they appreciated the ministry of their pastor, and the extent to which they had benefited by his instructions. (Loud cheers.)

Mr. Henry Bateman, on being called upon by the chairman, said that the sentiment which he had to propose related to the kindness which had been manifested by the friends of Peckham, Dr. Collyer, Mr. Betts, and those other gentlemen from Hanover Chapel, who had so kindly attended on the present occasion to show their love and respect for Mr. Gamble.

With regard to what his friend and relative, Mr. Binney had said in his address, he (Mr. Bateman) fully concurred in every word, and should be exceedingly glad to see the admirable suggestion which had been made acted upon, especially that which had reference to the ministers of the various districts meeting together, at stated intervals, to talk over the advancement of their common object, and to see by what means this could best be accomplished. (Hear, hear.) If a number of laymen, deacons, and leading men, were taken into the confraternity, so much the better. (Hear, hear.) They might thus form an uncommonly good Congregationalist Presbytery, which would tend materially to bring the Churches into a condition of much greater unity and efficiency. He really did believe that much lasting good would result from such fellowship meetings. There would be the laymen with their worldly wisdom, and the ministers with their pure, innocent, and sanctified minds; and, by such intercourse, the laymen would be all the better, while the ministers might be none the worse. (Laughter and cheers.) Then as to the Litany—for his own part he went the whole length upon that point, and trusted that it would be anxiously considered.

The Rev. Mr. Betts and Mr. Dare, the senior deacon, severally returned thanks. Mr. Wheeler, on behalf of the Church and congregation at Clapton, proposed the next sentiment: "The senior ministers of the vicinity present, with our best wishes for their continued usefulness and prosperity, and our thanks for their Christian love and sympathy on this and other occasions."—The Rev. J. Watson acknowledged the sentiment, and testified to the high esteem in which the ministers of the neighbourhood held Mr. Gamble, and how thankful they were that he had been brought into their midst.—Mr. Atkinson proposed "Our Religious Press," which was responded to by Dr. Campbell, who, in reference to Mr. Gamble's settlement, said:—

I think his condition is a most enviable one. Very few young men who have come to London have had such a chapel, such a locality, such deacons, and such a people; but I repeat my conviction, that he was just the man for the place, and that the place was just the place for him. I think, moreover, that it was equally well that he was broken in under our friend Dr. Collyer. I wish that every one of our young ministers could have the same discipline administered to him before being called to the exclusive pastorate of a Church, especially in the metropolis. A beardless youth, fresh from the cloisters of a college, is not fit to take the charge of one of our prime London Churches. (Hear, hear.) My conviction is, that we must have some means of breaking-in young men, and training them to the duties of the pastoral office, before they shall be required to bear all the responsibility themselves. I am for a promotion of service; let them be first placed in sloops, then transferred to frigates, and afterwards be promoted to seventy-fours. (Laughter and cheers.) I have no scruple in taking men from the provinces and bringing them to London in cases where it is plain that they are above their sphere. (Hear, hear.) There is reason to believe that we shall presently come to understand this matter, seeing that we have already made great progress, in a variety of ways, in relation to our place of worship. (Hear, hear.) Contrast the state of things now, for instance, with that which existed when your old chapel was erected. Some twenty years ago, the man who gave £1. towards the erection of a chapel was thought to have done something mighty; the place was built, with a heavy debt; the pastor had to go round the country begging for money, and if he did not succeed in realising sufficient, had to undergo the ordeal of an annual tribulation with the Church, on the discovery of deficient revenues. Now, however, men of wealth and wisdom, like my friend Mr. Bateman here, see it to be their duty to give sums of 500*l.* or 1,000*l.*, and in some cases more—(cheers)—and the result is, the erection of beautiful edifices, worthy of the purposes to which they are dedicated. We have now a number of chapels in the metropolis, which I regard as perfect models, including those of Clapton, Kingsland, Highbury, and Camberwell; and, depend upon it, that, whatever people say about you, they will themselves imitate you when they come next to build. (Cheers.) All our new chapels are a vast

improvement upon the old ones. Everything has improved; I myself am improved, my friend Mr. Atkinson being witness. (Laughter and cheers.) The Religious Press, he said, is much improved, and that is something to be thankful for, notwithstanding that Mr. Binney says it is all an abomination. (Laughter.)

After a short address from Mr. J. M. Hare, one of the editors of the *Patriot*, the meeting was concluded with a vote of thanks to the chairman.

**WIVELISCOMBE, SOMERSET.**—The Rev. R. S. Short, of East Retford, Nottingham, having accepted a cordial and unanimous invitation to undertake the pastoral oversight of the Independent Church at the above place, commenced his labours on the second Sunday in November last, under very encouraging circumstances.

**VOLUNTARY TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION.**—The above association was formed at a meeting of voluntary teachers held at Bradford on the 3rd inst., the object of which is to promote a kindly feeling, and assist each other in every possible manner. Essays will be read and various subjects discussed relative to the profession. Mr. Emsley, Lancasterian School, Sheffield, was appointed secretary *pro tem.*

**ROMNEY-STREET CHAPEL, WESTMINSTER.**—On Wednesday, the 30th November, services were held for the public recognition of the Rev. S. Baker (late of Deal), as pastor of the Church worshipping as above. The services commenced with reading and prayer by Mr. Sparke, of Waterloo-road. Mr. Keen, of Lambeth, delivered an introductory address. Mr. Aldis, of Maze-pond, stated the nature of a Gospel Church, and asked the usual questions. Mr. Baker gave an account of his Christian experience, and a confession of his faith. Mr. Talbot, of Mile-end, offered prayer. Mr. Stovel, of Prescott-street, gave a most impressive charge; and Mr. Wyard, of Soho Chapel, concluded the meeting with prayer.

**RAGGED SCHOOL UNION.**—There are no less than 120 ragged schools in the metropolis, which include nearly 14,000 scholars, taught by 221 paid, and 1,800 voluntary teachers. With a view to the better organisation of these invaluable institutions, the Committee of the Ragged School Union have appointed the Rev. E. J. Hytche and Mr. Milne as school agents or inspectors of the schools situate in the southern and western districts of London. There can be little doubt that should this effort at systematic action prove successful, it will tend still further to ameliorate the social and religious condition of those outcasts for whose spiritual welfare ragged schools were originally established.

**ARTHUR-STREET CHAPEL, WALWORTH.**—On Monday, the 5th inst., the ceremony of laying the foundation-stone of a new Baptist Chapel, to be erected in Arthur-street, Walworth, for the use of the Baptist Church, at present worshipping in Horsley-street Chapel, under the pastoral care of the Rev. Jonathan George, was performed by Apsley Pellatt, Esq., M.P., in the presence of a large number of ministers and friends.—The Rev. Samuel Green read a history of the Church, and a document, which was afterwards inclosed in the foundation-stone, to the following effect: "This chapel, the foundation-stone of which was laid December 5, 1853, was erected for the use of the Particular, or Calvinistic, Baptist Church worshipping in Horsley-street, Walworth, practising free communion." The document went on to state that the Church had formerly been a "Strict" Communion Church, and gave a list of the pastors from its formation, in 1833, up to the present time. The number of members were stated to be 400.—Mr. Pellatt, after laying the stone with the ordinary ceremonies, delivered a brief but pertinent address in exposition and defence of Protestant Nonconformist principles, and concluded by saying that such was his charity towards those who differed from him, he would willingly consent to have a baptistery at the Independent Church to which he belonged, so that those who thought proper might be baptised therein—a statement which was received with loud applause.—The Rev. Dr. Steane then came forward and delivered a very clear and forcible exposition of the distinctive peculiarities of the body and the worship to which the building is to be appropriated. Those principles were summed up in three words—conscientiousness, freedom, and charity. They contended, first and foremost, for the right of private judgment—that every man should be at liberty to worship God as he thought proper. As Napoleon had said, they held that the functions of the State ceased where those of conscience commenced. Neither could they permit their religious liberty to be interfered with by any "Synod," or "General Assembly," or "Convocation," or "Bench of Bishops," any more than they could by the Pope himself. (Hear, hear.) They asserted this principle not only in the face of all political rulers, but also in the face of ecclesiastical rulers. They would maintain their Protestantism in opposition to Popery, their Nonconformity in opposition to the Established Churches; and the rite of baptism by immersion not in opposition, but in distinction from the various Pædo-Baptist denominations. While they rejoiced that they were Baptists, they rejoiced still more that they were Protestant Dissenters, but above all that they were Christians.—The proceedings terminated with devotional exercises. About 1,500*l.* has been collected. The chapel is to seat 700. A sermon was preached in the evening by the Rev. W. P. Tiddy, late of Brussels.

**THE GENERAL COMMITTEE OF THE LIVERPOOL TOWN COUNCIL** have had under consideration a proposition to establish a reformatory for juvenile criminals in Liverpool, and have decided upon making a recommendation on the subject to the council at their next meeting, and that a number of gentlemen connected with the shipping interest are favourable to the project.

## Correspondence.

### SUPPRESSION OF THE TRAFFIC IN INTOXICATING DRINKS.

To the Editor of the *Nonconformist*.

DEAR SIR,—I may as well state that I am a teetotaler, and an ardent one—if possible, more and more one every successive year of my life. I am always glad to hear of any legitimate plan, the object of which is to discountenance the use of intoxicating liquors. Any plan formed with such a purpose is worthy of serious consideration. It should not be passed by carelessly, but should be mentally weighed and discussed. Personally I thank you for your kindness in affording space in your paper for the discussion of the new plan—the Maine Liquor Law—which is advocated by some as being especially suited to our country. When I first read of it being law in one of the United States, whose name it bears, it struck me as being a very bold stroke. Every teetotaler could not but be interested in the results of the trial, and I think all serious and thinking men must rejoice in the immediate and great success which attended it. That it has effected, thus far, very great good is evident. It has decreased drunkenness, and of course destroyed many of its accompanying evils; but, say some, has it not been done at too great expense, and at the sacrifice of principle and right? Such argue that it has, and that it is doing evil that good may come. If such is the case, the good is stolen good. It may be at first sweet to the taste, but most assuredly after it will be as ashes in the mouth. It must be admitted that it is making men teetotalers by force, whether they will be or not. It necessarily leaves a good many without any choice. In some instances it may produce good, but is it right? This is the question which wants answering. The wisdom and the stability of the law, or otherwise, depend upon whether the answer can be given in the affirmative or is given in the negative. At first sight, it seems as if the answer must be in the negative—that it is not right; it looks like dictation and interference with personal and public liberty. It smacks more of a law suited or peculiar to past centuries than to the present nineteenth century. It appears to be out of point with the present times. We may admit this, and acknowledge that our personal, natural love of liberty, ill brooks such contemplated restraint. But we may ask is it not so in reference to many other things besides this. How many new bye-laws have been enacted in our large towns within these last few years, which have apparently dealt hardly with individuals, and put them to great inconvenience and expense? Lodging-house keepers have not been left unmolested to adopt their own business course, and enjoy their own home management. Many men have had to remove their places of business, their cattle houses, their slaughter-houses, and their piggeries. Inconvenience and loss have both been experienced by these persons. They have not had liberty in its fullest sense, and it is quite right that they should not have. Liberty at such public cost would be not a conserving but a destroying element. The public in enacting sanitary bye-laws only acts on the defensive. Not to move in this matter, would involve neglect of duty, and would induce its legitimate punishment. All thinking men must admit, that the liquor traffic as it obtains in public-houses is a prolific source of immorality and crime; and that not only do the parties who patronise it suffer, but the public generally, and to a fearful extent. Did the people themselves who uphold the drinking customs only suffer, it would be a different thing. A man may be permitted to indulge in any eccentricities, or adopt any plan, so long as the results remain to himself alone. When they do not, and the public is dragged in and made an unwilling participant, it is high time to interfere. The house of an Englishman is his castle. He may use it for his own purposes, and for any purpose, and none will dare to interfere, but the moment he ventures to abuse it, by making it a position from whence to assail and injure other castles, he loses his privilege, and becomes amenable to English law. Slaughter-houses and piggeries, and other unhealthy sources, would not be interfered with by the appointed authorities did they not affect and influence others than the proprietors themselves. We maintain that, to act consistently as moral as well as physical reformers, we must view the liquor traffic in its broad public aspect. Only the other day others, with myself, were hindered in our journey by coach through liquor, obtained by one of our fellow-travellers. The further we journeyed, and the more opportunities he had of indulging his appetite, the worse he became, until he was nearly helpless. We were not only the unwilling spectators of a pitiable and disgusting sight, but losers of time, through his indiscretion, and through the liquor traffic. Is this right? Had these drinks, which rendered him helpless, been prohibited sale, as some other things which are dangerous to man and to the public are prohibited, we should not have had inflicted upon us a drunken passenger, and our time would not have been wasted. Our loss, I admit, in this instance, was comparatively nothing. This is only advanced as an illustration, to show the working and the results of the system, and to show also that the Maine Liquor Law is necessary, and is a just demand, being based on public right. I cannot see how other than beneficial results to the public can possibly flow from such a law. If we are wrong I am sure my teetotal friends and myself would like to be set right. Discussion in the way you have permitted in the *Nonconformist* is a likely way of getting at the right. All of us, teetotalers I mean, thank you for your kindness.

I remain yours, respectfully,

Market, Harborough, Dec. 10.

W. STANTON.

**RESPECTED EDITOR.**—I have read with deep interest your correspondence on the Maine Liquor Law; but there is one point of view that strikes me forcibly, that has not been touched upon by any of your correspondents, which must be my apology for dropping these lines on the subject. It is well known what devastation all spirituous liquors have committed amongst the aborigines of various countries, who were strangers to them before the introduction of them by civilised nations; and, by thus introducing the "fire waters," as they have been emphatically termed by some of them, what appalling results have followed. Now, suppose a country so circumstanced had had a Government sufficiently enlightened and powerful enough to protect their subjects from this baneful traffic, by not allowing the introduction of this "liquid fire" into its territories, could any of us come to the conclusion that that Government had not acted wisely, but had over-



stepped its proper functions? I think not, any more than I could censure the Chinese for endeavouring to put a stop to the importation of opium amongst them.

Yours very respectfully,  
JOHN ASHBY.

Carshalton, Dec. 12, 1853.

#### THE NEW REFORM BILL.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—I find the *Morning Chronicle*, through the medium of a well-known and somewhat popular signature, is helping to revive the project of a savings'-bank qualification franchise. At first sight, the proposal may appear likely to effect the object which the Government are believed to be anxious to accomplish—the enfranchisement of the *élite* of the working class; it will, however, be seen that this is altogether a mistake. For instance, a careful young man, at the expiration of his apprenticeship, might, in a short time, accumulate the required sum (30*l.* or 50*l.*), and would, of course, become entitled to a vote. Let him, however, marry, and furnish a house with the proceeds of his savings, and the State would present him with a wedding gift, in the shape of political disfranchisement. Again, there is a class of artisans—to their honour, by no means small—who laudably devote a portion of their earnings to the maintenance of their aged parents, and thus prevent the accumulation of savings'-bank deposits. Such men, as a reward for their filial affection, would virtually be declared unfit to discharge a political duty.

There are many, too, who, so far as education is concerned, willingly sacrifice their own interests to give their children the best within their reach. These men would be political outcasts, whilst others, who welcome the hand of charity in the matter, will be regarded as honourable citizens!

I might go on to show the absurdity of this project, but am willing to believe that, if Her Majesty's Ministers do wish to enfranchise a portion of the working-classes, they will not adopt a scheme which would almost confine the vote to married men without families, bachelors, and liveried servants.

Yours most respectfully,  
A "NORWICH OPERATIVE."

#### ELECTION OF BISHOPS.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

DEAR SIR,—In the "Memoirs of Lady Sundon (Mrs. Clayton), Mistress of the Robes to Queen Caroline, consort of George IV.," is a letter from Dr. Alured Clarke, to this lady, vol. ii., p. 270. In this letter he says: "Mr. Poyntz is returned from Hampshire, and tells me that the Church of Winchester, in the return they have made of their election of the bishop, have left out those words in the form which assert that they elected the bishop by the aid and immediate direction of the Holy Ghost, which form of words were (*sic*) always inserted in their returns from all Churches; and, though I hope and believe that the return is perfectly good without them, as they cannot be an essential part of the instrument, yet it is pretty remarkable, that the first time of their being omitted by any Church, should be in the case of Bishop Hoadley."

Can you inform me whether this—shall I call it false and blasphemous form—"by the aid and immediate direction of the Holy Ghost"—continues still to be used on announcing the appointment of a Parliamentary Prelate? Or, if discontinued, when, and by what authority it ceased to be used?

Yours respectfully,  
W. GRIFFITH, JUN.  
Derby.

#### TOWN AND VILLAGE LIBRARIES.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—As I advertised in your paper some months back, soliciting aid to enable me to procure and purchase libraries for the use of the poor of our town and neighbouring villages, both you and many of your readers will be gratified to hear that I have succeeded. I have now about eight hundred volumes, embracing every subject in the English language adapted to promote the Education of the young, the reformation of the dissipated, and the usefulness and happiness of all. I have also laid in a good stock of materials, including a large number of diagrams, for the use of evening classes of youths, adults, lay preachers, and the lecture-room, which must, under God, prove a blessing to thousands of the labouring peasantry. I have recently started the second lay preacher for Australia. He is a very careful and industrious young man, a good mechanic, and of his class, a powerful expounder of the Word of Life. He will work at his trade in wood and iron, and preach the Gospel as an Independent Congregationalist.

Yours sincerely,  
W. FERGUSON.

Red House, Bicester, 1st December, 1853.

#### A NEW REMEDY IN PAINFUL AND NERVOUS DISEASES.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—I am desirous of directing the attention of the medical profession and the community at large to a simple auxiliary in the treatment of certain painful and nervous diseases.

From time immemorial, it has been remarked by physicians and others, that a change of weather or even in the direction of the wind, aggravates the pains and distress of patients labouring under certain severe and painful diseases, viz., rheumatic fever, asthma, &c. The discoveries of the present age would lead us to believe that electricity plays an important part in these and other changes, although inappreciable to the sense of sight, and that the quantity of the same is affected or altered by these atmospheric changes.

It is admitted by all that the earth is the chief source of electricity, and sometimes communicates it to the circumambient air, whilst at others, the latter being surcharged, it is returned to the earth in the form of forked or other lightning. I think that there can be little doubt but that this energetic and subtle agent, acting on the respiratory nerves and those of sensation, induce these unpleasant effects on the human body. Now, if a person can make known to the public at large a simple method of placing a patient in such a position that he shall not be so much affected by these atmospheric changes, he will be the means of benefiting some of his fellow-creatures' suffering, and at the same time of contributing his mite to the treasury of professional knowledge.

I therefore suggest that a set of glass plates or cups

cast expressly for the legs of pianofortes to rest in, be procured, that the castors on the feet of the bedstead of a person labouring under any complaint found to be affected by atmospheric changes, be lodged in these glasses; that the bedstead do not touch the wall, and that the curtains do not reach the ground. The bed is then insulated, and the patient is thereby cut off from the effects of terrestrial electricity; the bedclothes being principally non-conductors, will protect the body covered thereby, and then there only remains the effects of the atmospheric electricity on the exposed parts of the respiratory apparatus.

To render the insulation still more complete, the bystanders administering to the wants of the patient, may stand on a stool provided with four strong, short, and cylindrical glass legs; or perhaps a calico pillow, stuffed with down or feathers, may be a pretty good substitute for the same.

I have recently seen these glass plates or cups exposed in the window of Tolkien, pianoforte maker, facing the statue of King William IV., in the City, marked up at 5*s.* 6*d.* the set. The expense, therefore, can be no great obstacle, and if only a timid and nervous female can be assured that by lying on a bed provided with such glasses during a thunder storm, she will be protected from the effects of lightning, even should it enter her room and do some injury to its contents, some good will result from this simple, inexpensive, and elegant method of insulating an ordinary bedstead, without any unsightliness whatever.

I do not claim to myself the merit of this discovery, as a short time since I heard of a patient labouring under rheumatic fever, and having been treated in the ordinary method without any improvement, was advised to see another practitioner, who, on visiting him, directed the bystanders to collect all the empty wine bottles that the house contained, which being done, he had the bed on which the patient was lying, placed thereon, and he speedily benefited by this treatment. I, English like, only aim at improvement, using materials ready at my hand. But it is one thing to invent, and another to improve and make known your discovery for the public good.

Before concluding this short paper, if any skilful electrician would but apply his mind diligently to the discovery of a delicate and sensitive electrometer in order that these variable quantities of atmospheric electricity may be ascertained, and if possible capable of being used by inspection in the manner of a barometer or thermometer, he would be conferring a great boon on science in general, and the medical profession in particular.

I remain, yours, &c.,

THOS. GLASS MELHUISH, M.D.

60, York-road, Lambeth.

#### Foreign and Colonial Intelligence.

##### RUSSIA AND TURKEY.

###### RUSSIAN NAVAL VICTORY.

The following is the substance of an official despatch received *via* Odessa, and forwarded from thence to Vienna: "On the 30th November the Russian Admiral Nachimoff, with six ships of the line, forced the passage of the roads at Sinope, and destroyed, after an hour's engagement, seven frigates, two corvettes, one steamer, and three transports. The frigate which was least damaged, and which the Russians were carrying off to Sebastopol, they were forced to abandon at sea, after taking Osman Pasha and his suite on board the Russian Admiral's ship. The larger Turkish vessels which were destroyed had each 800 soldiers, besides artillerymen, on board, and a large sum of money, being bound for the east coast of the Black Sea. A fourteenth vessel escaped undamaged. The battle began at an hour's distance from Sinope. Osman Pasha is a Rear-Admiral in the Turkish navy. Prince Menschikoff immediately sent intelligence of the victory to St. Petersburg.

There appears no doubt that on the 28th November, two days prior to the action, the principal divisions of the Turkish fleet were at anchor in the Bosphorus. Admiral Slade had brought back his division some days before, with the exception of one frigate which had taken shelter at Sinope, and great satisfaction had been expressed that at this inclement season of the year the line-of-battle ships and frigates were safe in harbour. According to a correspondent of the *Morning Chronicle* at Trebizond, three frigates and two steamers left that port on the 16th ult. for Batoun, and there seems little doubt that, this was the "fleet" which was destroyed. It was probably chased by the Russian squadron, and took refuge in the roads of Sinope, and it is possible that some of the vessels destroyed by the Russians were hulks in the port. Sinope is the best harbour on the coast of Asia Minor, situated about 300 miles from the Bosphorus, and at the narrowest part of the Black Sea, being only forty-two maritime leagues from Sebastopol. The town of Sinope is built on the isthmus of a peninsular jutting out into the Euxine, and forming two capacious harbours. That to the south-east is used by the Turks as a naval station. The town is a square, flanked with towers, and covered by a small citadel; but, in spite of the importance of the place, it has long been considered the most vulnerable point on the whole north coast of Asia Minor. The land batteries, whatever they may be, appear to have been quite incompetent to meet the fire of the ships, and this engagement furnishes another example of the comparative weakness of ordinary fortifications when opposed to modern naval gunnery. The havoc which is described to have taken place shows that the ships on both sides were fought with great gallantry. The Russians had, however, by their own account, a vast superiority of force, and Osman Bey, the Turkish commander, only surrendered at the last extremity. The distance from the mouth of the Bosphorus to Batoun is about six hundred sea miles, Sinope being situate about half-way. Sebastopol, the principal station of the Russian Black Sea navy, is only about two hundred sea miles distant from Sinope—a little to the west of north.

It appears that the Turkish passenger-ship, which

was captured in the Black Sea, had been released, having been taken before the expiration of the delay granted on both sides for placing merchant-ships out of danger. She had arrived in the Bosphorus.

From the report of the Russian Vice-Admiral Korniloff, it appears that the contest between the Wladimir and the small Egyptian steamer Pervas Bakhri, was kept up for three hours, the Russians being unwilling to destroy the vessel, but wishing to take it as a prize.

##### THE NEW PROTOCOL.

The Paris *Moniteur* of Friday contains the following official article: "On the 17th May last we said that if the question raised at Constantinople by M. le Prince Menschikoff should lead to complications, these would become a question of general politics, in which the other Powers which signed the treaty of July 13, 1841, together with France, would find themselves engaged, and by the same right. Events have justified our anticipations; that recognition of mutual obligations between the great Cabinets, which in our view must result from common interests and respect for the same principles in the case supposed, has now become a fact. The intimate union of the Government of the Emperor with the Government of Her Britannic Majesty had already given assurance to all minds; still there remained doubts as to the attitude which the other Powers would take up at the commencement of a war which they had sincerely endeavoured to prevent, but the theatre of which, from the very nature of things, might extend itself. To avert this peril, to concert a common action, and to bind up the interests of Europe more compactly, the Emperor has employed his most persevering efforts. This loyal policy has gained its point. It would be presumptuous to regard the Eastern Question as ended. We may still expect to see it pass through different phases, but the agreement strongly professed (*hauteinent avoué*) by Austria and Prussia with the Cabinets of Paris and London suffices henceforth to calm the inquietudes which for the last six months has kept Europe in suspense. The real danger of the situation consisted in the possibility that the Powers might be divided into two camps: this danger has vanished. The same views—the same wishes—animate France, England, Austria, and Prussia, and a protocol, signed at Vienna on the 5th of this month, in a conference at which the representatives of the four Powers assisted, bears witness to their mutual resolutions. To re-establish peace between Russia and the Sublime Porte upon conditions honourable for both parties, and to maintain the territorial integrity of the Ottoman Empire, the independent existence of which within the limits laid down by treaties has become one of the conditions of European equilibrium—such is the twofold end which the four Powers propose to pursue together. To lay down as a primal fact that in no case can the present war bring about modifications in the state of possession which time has consecrated in the East, is to restrict the field, and to bring back (it is to be hoped) the difference which has arisen between the Cabinet of St. Petersburg and the Sublime Porte to a point which will permit European diplomacy to exercise an efficacious action, and to re-establish a solid peace between Russia and the Ottoman Empire under a collective guarantee."

##### AFFAIRS AT CONSTANTINOPLE.

The Queen, of 116 guns, and the London, of ninety guns, arrived, on the 30th ult., in the Bosphorus from Malta. It is stated that a Spanish squadron of six ships of war was expected. The recently arrived ambassador for Madrid had had interviews with Redschid Pasha and the Sultan.

On the 22nd inst., Lord Stratford de Redcliffe presented Admiral Dundas and the commanders of vessels in the British fleet to the Sultan, who told those officers that the presence in the Bosphorus of the British fleet was a striking proof of the friendship of the Queen of England. He added, that so numerous were the proofs of good feeling which he had received from Great Britain, that he was positive that England would, with all the means in her power, oppose the unjust pretensions of Russia. The Sultan said further, the world would see how great the advantages were of the support of a strong and friendly Power such as England, and the sympathies of such an enlightened and generous nation as the English, that his Government desired peace, provided it were honourable and compatible with his sovereign rights, and, as to the progress and the prosperity of the Turks his (the Sultan's) sentiments in those respects were familiar to Lord Redcliffe.

It appears that the Porte had definitively replied to the English Ambassador that the draught note (already spoken of) could not be taken into consideration under present circumstances, and that the determination of the Sultan, in accord with his Ministers, was that negotiations could not be resumed so long as the Russians continued to occupy any portion of the Ottoman territory.

Lord Stratford de Redcliffe having received dispatches from the British Consul at Varna, announcing that the British merchant ships at the mouth of the Sulina had not received any further interruption from the Russians, had countermanded the order given to four English steam-frigates to enter the Black Sea.

On the 23rd, M. de Bruck, the Austrian Envoy, communicated the following proposal to the Minister of Foreign Affairs. It was not officially communicated to the representatives of the other Powers:—

The Emperor of Russia demands that the Greek rite and clergy continue to enjoy their spiritual privileges; and this, it is expressly understood, under the aegis of the Sultan. He declares, moreover, that there is no wish on his part to infringe on the independence and sovereign rights of the Sultan, or to interfere in the internal affairs of the Ottoman empire. All that Russia desires is the assurance to maintain the strict religious *statu quo* relatively to the Greek rite—viz., an entire equality of



immunities between the Greek and other Christian communities subject to the Porte; and consequently the enjoyment in favour of the Greek Church of those advantages already accorded to those communities as well as the participation in those which the Sultan may hereafter grant.

It is on this basis that the Cabinet of St. Petersburg is ready to resume the negotiations immediately and directly with the Ottoman empire—negotiations whereof, in its opinion, the seat may be conveniently fixed at Bucharest. Meanwhile, the Emperor of Russia, notwithstanding the declaration of war by the Sublime Porte, has announced the intention of changing nothing in his present attitude, and has given orders that his troops remain on the defensive.

Fully convinced that his Majesty the Sultan, on his side, has nothing more at heart than to put an end as promptly as possible to the effusion of blood which has unfortunately already commenced, and that he is consequently determined to maintain the points conceded to Russia in former manifestations of the Porte, the Cabinet of Vienna, in confronting these intentions with those of the Emperor of Russia, expresses a hope that negotiations, preceded by an armistice, will not fail to bring about a sincere reconciliation. (Signed) BUOL DE S.

The redifs were pouring in in all directions, and it was really singular to see them marching rank and file in multifarious peasant costume, and countenances glowing with martial ardour. In the district of Adrianople, 30,000 were only demanded by the Government, but the seraskier received accounts that 70,000 are on their way.

#### THE WAR ON THE DANUBE AND IN ASIA.

It appears that the bulk of the Turkish troops have retired into winter quarters at Shumla. There is an abundance of provisions in the camp, and the weather was again dry and healthy.

The Turks continue to fortify Kalafat, and have mounted 100 cannon on its ramparts. It is said that the Russians are pushing forward their troops from Krajova in that direction, but the main body remain at Bucharest. The Turks hold the island off Turtukal, and the island of Mokanon, near Giurgevo; an object of continual attacks from the Russian side, to which the Turks reply by cannonading Giurgevo. In a skirmish near the latter place, on the 26th, a Russian major was killed.

Letters from the banks of the Danube announce that two companies of the Walachian militia had succeeded in crossing the Danube by night, and in joining the troops of Omar Pasha. They have given the Turks exceedingly precise information respecting the Russian troops, which proves that the latter are far from being in a flourishing state.

Letters from Asia confirm the news of the defeat of the Russians in two engagements which took place near Akaska, as well as the storming of the fortresses of Akaska and Saffa. Abdi Pasha has entered Georgia, and his army is marching upon Teflis.

#### THE PRINCIPALITIES.

General Budberg, the Russian Commissioner for the two Principalities, arrived at Jassy, on the 30th Nov. Prior to his arrival, Prince Gortschakoff, on the 27th ult., issued an address to the Administrative Council inclosing a rescript from the Czar, announcing that in consequence of the resignation of the Hospodars, Stirbey and Ghika, after the declaration of war by Turkey, General Budberg had been appointed Commissioner Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary. The following is an extract from the rescript:—

In respect to the fulfilment of his duties, the general object of which is the maintenance of peace and order, the welfare of the two countries, and the provision for the necessities of our army, General Budberg will have to act in obedience to instructions forwarded to him, a copy of which will also be sent to you.

At the same time that we inform you of what has occurred, we have to express the wish that the new order of things which is provisionally introduced into the Principalities, under your supreme direction, may answer our expectations, and that the care for the welfare of our troops may accord with the solicitude we feel for the inhabitants of Moldavia and Wallachia who are under our high protection.

In the treaty of Aekermann, concluded in 1826, there is a separate article relative to the Principalities of Moldavia and Wallachia which contains the following passage: "If it happen that on account of age, illness, or for any other reason, one of the Hospodars should desire to abdicate before the term of seven years is completed, the Sublime Porte shall communicate the same to Russia, and the abdication shall take place after a previous understanding between the two Courts." There is no doubt that the course pursued by Russia is a direct infraction of treaties, but it remains a question whether a state of war does not abrogate treaties.

General Ursuroff, commander in Moldavia, has been superseded by Prince Gortschakoff, on the ground that he treated foreigners, Austrian Jews among others, with great brutality; and that the foreign Consuls had complained. A far more serious act has been perpetrated by General Engelhardt. Some despatches from Lord Stratford arrived at Brailow, on the 15th November, and an Albanian, for nineteen years in the employ of the British Consulate, was ordered to take them on immediately to Bucharest. While they were getting ready, the Albanian stepped into a coffeehouse; and was almost immediately arrested by the Russians. He stated who he was, and his business; but he was sent to prison. The British Consul sent in a remonstrance to the Wallachian Secretary of State, who took the note to the Russian official. The Russian said he knew nothing of any British Consul, except the Consul who had some time since taken down the British flag. The Albanian, therefore, remained in prison; but we are left to suppose that there were further remonstrances, for the latest accounts briefly state that the Albanian has been set at liberty. The despatches were sent on by another hand. Both the English and French Consuls, it is believed, have left

the Provinces, the latter certainly, and have gone to Constantinople by way of the Black Sea.

#### RELATIVE MERITS OF THE TWO ARMIES.

The special military correspondent of the *Morning Chronicle* has forwarded another batch of letters giving us a glimpse of the state of affairs at Oltenitza after the engagement on the 4th November. It appears that on that day the Turks had only six guns on their intrenchment, not nine, as was stated. Between the 4th and the 9th, Omar Pasha threw over about 5,000 additional troops to relieve those who fought on the 4th; and a *tête-de-pont* was begun, but not completed. There was no more fighting. A number of Cossacks, backed by squadrons of regular cavalry, showed themselves on the 9th, but they kept at a prudent distance, having a wholesome dread of Turkish cannon. As our readers are aware, the fall of rain and snow, and not the movements of the Russians, caused the Turks to recross the Danube. This statement is fully borne out by the *Chronicle's* correspondent. Writing on the 13th November from Turtukai, he says:—

Early on the morning of yesterday the snow commenced falling, and the high bank upon which this town is situated was quite white, the thermometer falling to 38 degrees Fah. On the same morning, the Russians awoke and found the tents of the quarantine station struck, and the place evacuated—burning, too, in several parts. About ten A.M., a squadron of Cossacks marched down to reconnoitre it; and, when within some 100 yards or so of the parapet, a single gun opened upon them from this bank. Before the sound could have even reached them, they turned and fled incontinently. These gentry have the highest respect for their enemy's artillery. During the day two or three Cossacks hung about the intrenchment, burning with curiosity to investigate what Turkish fortifications were like; but, seeing it burning with something still more ardent, and fancying that they smelt a rat in the shape of mines, thought that prudence was the better part of valour, and contented themselves with an outside view. Later still, some squadrons of cavalry, with a couple of horse-artillery guns, came down to reconnoitre the state of affairs at the *tête-de-pont*. A few rounds of shot satisfied them that they were not wanted; and not wishing, possibly, to thrust their society on the new arrivals, left them in peace. To-day again reconnoissances were made, but always at the same respectful distance.

Criticising the Russian movements on the memorable fight of the 4th, the writer expresses his wonder that the Russians, contrary to the practise of other armies, should attack intrenchments in columns; for the consequence of this mode is, that the fire from the intrenchment "is concentrated on the head of the column, so that it is raked right and left as well as down the centre." But the cause of the Russian method is explained in an observation made by a Prussian officer, who saw the Russian officers urging the infantry to advance, and enforcing their exhortations by blows with the flat of their sabres. The troops marched up in column, it is conjectured, because they were not steady enough to deploy. The correspondent also remarks, that the Russian soldier fights in an equipment that makes him a beast of burden. His ammunition-pouch contains sixty-six rounds; he wears a knapsack, heavy cross-belts, sword, bayonet, greatcoat, and blanket, and a bag of bread broken up into crumbs. After the 15th, the army went into winter quarters.

What then has been effected by this campaign? will be asked: the Russians are just as much in possession of the Danubian Provinces as ever they were, and less likely to leave them than ever. In reply—supposing that war was inevitable, a good deal has been done morally. Omar Pasha has shown his enemy that he can cross his troops over the Danube without any train of pontoons or cumbersome material; that 2,500 of his troops, with six pieces of artillery, could intrench themselves, and in a day and a half after the first soldier reached the left bank, could resist half a division of Russian troops, some 10,000 in number, backed by twenty pieces of artillery, twelve of them being pieces of position; moreover, that on the winter season commencing, he could withdraw his forces, in the face of a considerable army, without the loss of a single man in the operation. A wholesome respect for the prowess of the Turkish troops will have got abroad among the Russian soldiery, instilled into them by the number of vacancies in the ranks of the 21st and 22nd regiments—all general orders or biased reports in Government journals to the contrary notwithstanding. Lastly, it will have shown Europe that the Turk can fight a good fight still, let detractors, who talk of degeneracy, say what they will; that some of the old blood that of yore used to make him the terror of civilised nations still courses through his veins; and that, aided or unaided by his Western allies, he will not knock under to the great Northern bully without a struggle. Omar Pasha said well, that Turkey now drew the sword in support of civilisation and liberty: its first stroke will have its effect.

#### FRANCE.

The chief event in Paris last week was the inauguration of the statue of Marshal Ney, on the 7th December, the anniversary of his execution. The statue stands in the garden of the Luxembourg, on the spot where he was shot. It represents the marshal with an up-lifted sword in his hand, commanding a charge. Near the site a gallery was erected for the members of Ney's family and the civil and military authorities; and it was adorned with eagles and tricolour flags. About mid-day, detachments of the army of Paris took up their positions; a deputation of veterans, armed with lances, occupying the post of honour. A large body of old military men were present; and in the gallery were the Prince of Moskowa, the duke of Elchingen, and Count Edgar Ney, sons of the marshal, and M. Michel Ney, son of the Duke of Elchingen. M. de Persigny, all the other Ministers, M. Baroche, and the Marshals Magnan, St. Arnaud, Vaillant, and Castellane, were also present. Then came Prince Jerome Bonaparte. The veil was removed from the statue, amid a fanfare of trumpets, and a salute of artillery. The Archbishop of Paris, at the head of his clergy, now marched up

and blessed the statue. Orations were then delivered in honour of Marshal Ney. Marshal St. Arnaud styled the proceeding "an act of reparation, accompanied after a lapse of thirty-eight years, in honour of an illustrious victim of civil discord." M. Dupin, one of Ney's council at his trial, followed; expatiating on the vindictiveness of the Restoration, and protesting that the judgment was illegal, irregular, and iniquitous—a violation of the capitulation of Paris, forced from the judges to satisfy the implacable animosity of a faction. "It was the tricoloured flag sacrificed to the white flag." "Parties," exclaimed the veteran orator, "should bear in mind that certain men whom they kill rise again in a commanding attitude." After this, a deputation from Sarrelouis, Ney's birthplace (now a part of the Prussian dominions), and a detachment of veterans, drew round the statue and placed a crown of *immortelles* at its foot; the troops defiled, and the ceremony was at an end. It will be observed that the Emperor was not present.

There has been, it is said, another plot against the Emperor's life in Paris. More than 100 are already in custody, among whom are twenty-two journeymen tailors and shopmen employed at the celebrated establishment of the *Belle Jardinière* (the Paris "Moses and Sons"), on the Quay. It appears that the Emperor was expected to be present shortly at the inauguration of the works lately completed in the bed of the Seine, opposite the *Belle Jardinière*, and it is alleged that it was intended to fire at him from the windows. It is confidently asserted that every one of the twenty-two persons above-mentioned had a loaded gun concealed among the clothes confided to his care.

Contrary to expectation, the Government have broken ground respecting the reconciliation of the elder and younger branches of the Bourbons. An article from the pen of M. de la Guéronnière was published both in the *Pays* and the *Constitutionnel* of Friday. It contains some very hard and not unfair hits at the Orleans princes, and abounds with arguments, of no recondite nature, tending to show how small the chance is that the Count de Chambord will ever obtain the throne of France—and how much smaller still that he would keep it long. The main object of his essay seems to be to prove that the fusion has damaged the prospects not only of the Orleanist but of the Legitimist party, but in this he is considered to have failed. M. Thiers is reported to have said lately, "The fusion is nothing but the addition of four members to the Legitimist party." But M. de la Guéronnière, so far from conceding to the Legitimists even this trivial accession of strength, will have it that the Count de Chambord, by consenting to receive the unqualified submission of his cousins, has done irreparable injury to his cause, and he produces neither fact nor argument to support this proposition. The journalist states that the fusion is the work of M. Guizot.

The Legitimist journals are too wary to take up the gauntlet thrown down by M. de la Guéronnière. Their reply to his long article on the "fusion," is confined to a few cautious words. The *Assemblée* declines to accept the controversy, observing merely, "There are certain questions which ought to be treated thoroughly, or not meddled with."

#### ITALY.

A Vienna paper contains the following curious statement from Rome, which, however, requires confirmation: "From Rome we hear that new differences have broken out between France and the Holy See. The Roman troops have received orders from the French commandant to leave the Imperial city, and retire to Viterbo and Civita Castellana; while the French troops in different parts of the provinces were to be concentrated at Rome. From the same source we learn that the French Ambassador at Naples had taken down his arms, and had arrived at Rome. The reason of this step is said to have been a demand upon Naples by the French Government to evacuate Gaeta and three other fortified posts, as well as a reduction of 10,000 men in the army."

Other more reliable intelligence states that the "difference" between the Emperor of the French and the King of Naples respecting the treatment of the Duke de Lesparre has been arranged, and M. de Maupas, the French Envoy, is again at his post.

Cardinal Wiseman preached in the Church of St. Andrea delle Fratte, on the 30th ult., to an English congregation. The *Daily News* correspondent thus describes the event:—

A great number of his auditors being Protestants, the Cardinal directed his discourse more particularly to them, dwelling upon the usual topics of antiquity, unity and immutability, as characteristic of the Church of Rome, and describing the Protestant creed of England as already "trembling in the palace," and breaking up and dispersing in countless sectarian divisions, as the ice of the northern ocean cracks and yields before the warm breath of summer. The Cardinal's sermon was, in fact, more ornamental than argumentative, and wound up with a piece of tautology which seemed to surprise and disappoint his auditors greatly. "In fine, my brethren," said he, "you must contemplate Rome as the city of God's apostles—consequently, as the city of the apostles of God"—a variation of the same sentiment difficult to express in any other than the English language. A select band of pickpockets exercised their predatory arts upon the congregation the whole time, delighted to have to do with such respectable and unsuspecting victims.

The same writer describes in detail the brutal treatment of an English subject in the Papal States. Mr. A. Feslaferatta Desain is a native of Gibraltar, and had been to Marseilles on business. He visited Genoa, Leghorn, and Florence, at which latter place he obtained a passport for Rome. At Arezzo he was arrested, at midnight, on the 19th September, by Tuscan gendarmes, and taken in custody to the Roman frontier. His passport and papers were taken



away at Celta di Castello, and he was imprisoned for three days. He was then sent to Perugia, where he was confined for seventeen days with the worst sort of offenders, fed on galley-slaves' fare, and manacled during the journey thither, which was performed upon a cart, escorted by gendarmes on horseback. All his inquiries as to the reason of his imprisonment, and his requests to speak with some of the local authorities, were treated with contempt. Whilst travelling, he was handcuffed and chained to the other malefactors on the cart, but when replaced in prison his fetters were removed. This mode of conveyance at foot pace, and only on stated days of the week, was so tedious that poor Mr. Desain only arrived at Rome on Nov. 17, when, after being deprived of his beard and moustaches by the prison barber, he was thrust into the common ward of the Termini gaol, with sixty-three malefactors of every description. Here, however, by the energetic interference of the British representative, Mr. Desain was brought to the consular office two or three days after, and formally placed under British protection, and he now awaits the result of negotiations pending on his behalf, and the restitution of his regular British passport, which the police authorities appear by no means ready to hand out, as it forms the chief piece of accusation against them.

The character of the new Piedmontese Chamber of Deputies is now fixed, the returns from nearly all the constituencies being known. Of 115 elections, eighty-one are favourable to the Ministry, twenty-three members belong to the ultra-liberal opposition, and eleven only to the priestly and obscurantist party. It is expected that Count Cavour will reckon two-thirds of the Chamber among his supporters.

The official note from the Tuscan Government, addressed to Mr. Scarlett on the subject of Miss Cunningham's imprisonment, contains the following passage:—

The Grand-Duke has been induced to grant a pardon chiefly on account of his esteem for the *Chargé d'Affaires* of Her Britannic Majesty, and of the manner in which he has conducted this business; but his Highness begs him at the same time not to rely upon such kindness in the future, the Grand-Duke being firmly resolved not to show any similar indulgence. The President of the Cabinet takes this opportunity of expressing his disapprobation of the conduct of the English residents in Tuscany. He trusts that what has happened will be a lesson to them; on the other hand, the Government is determined to execute the laws with the greatest rigour with respect to the English, and particularly those laws which relate to religion.

#### INDIA, CHINA, AND THE CAPE.

The following is the intelligence by submarine telegraph *via* Trieste, in anticipation of the Overland Mail: "Pegue is still in an unsettled condition, and many dacoities have occurred. General Godwin died at Simla on the 26th October. Major H. Edwards is appointed Commissioner for Peshawur. Trade has improved. Cholera has appeared in Bombay. At Shanghai and Amoy they are still fighting. At Foo-chowfoo there is great disaffection. Canton is quiet, but great apprehension prevails. Trade in China is good."

At the Cape of Good Hope, from which advices have been received to the 7th ult., the principal subject of interest was the pending fate of the Orange River Sovereignty, where Sir George Clerk, with plenary powers, was obtaining information regarding its future disposal. Great fears are entertained by the colonists that the Government will withdraw British protection, in which case they expect their farms will fall into the hands of the Boers. Many of these farms were taken from the disloyal in 1848, and given to those who supported the Queen's authority, and the present holders think they ought to be supported in those possessions which have been stocked and improved under that impression.

There appears to be ground for apprehension that, after the Caffres have got in their crops, they will take the first opportunity to resume hostilities. With them are a number of Hottentots, deserters from the levies and Cape Mounted Rifles, who retain their carbines. These rebels are occasionally hired by traders to cultivate land over the Kei. Having no fixed employment, they live chiefly by robbery, and, when the Caffres have a supply of ammunition, will readily join them in any predatory movement.

The registration for the new Parliament has been completed. The elections will take place in March or April.

Pretorius, the leader of the Dutch emigrant boers, and President of the Transvaal Republic, is dead.

#### AUSTRALIA.

This week there have been two arrivals from the Australian colony. On Monday we learned that by the Overland Mail there were advices from Sydney to Sept. 20, Melbourne to Sept. 26, and Adelaide to Oct. 1; but the Victoria mail steamer, which made the quickest passage out, has been behind the overland route only by two days; that vessel which, in the same papers we learn, arrived at Falmouth on Sunday, bringing intelligence from Adelaide down to Sept. 29. Her mails were fifteen tons weight. She brings on freight 184,000 ounces of gold, and has forty-four first and fifty-three second-class passengers, who probably possess over 20,000 ounces, some of them having nuggets varying from thirty-four to thirty-six ounces each. The intelligence from the colonies generally is of a most satisfactory character.

At Sydney the rural and pastoral districts to the north were very prosperous, and high prices were given for stations. The city is free from robberies, and handsome buildings are rising in all directions. A Government surveying party was on duty at Port Curtis or Port Gladstone, 800 or 900 miles north. This port is said to possess many facilities as a convenient outlet for wool and other agricultural produce now conveyed expensively by land to Sydney for export. The Paramatta Railway is making slow progress, in consequence of a deficiency of labour. The Adelaide steamer was lying at anchor in Sydney harbour, her destination undecided. She is said to be in better condition than was at first supposed. The Aberdeen clipper *Walter Hood* was to leave Sydney on the 12th October for England by Cape Horn.

The agitation against the New Constitution Bill had been very vigorous. On the 15th August Mr. Wentworth, in moving its second reading, proposed that the vote should only be considered as affirming the principle that the future Legislature should consist of two Chambers, leaving it an open question whether the Upper House should be elected or nominated, and that, after the second reading, on these conditions, the Council should be adjourned for three months, which would give ample time to the colonists to consider the whole subject. The debate was then adjourned for a week, and was resumed on the 23rd August. On the 2nd September the second reading was carried by thirty-four to eight votes, the further consideration of the measure being postponed till the 6th December. A public dinner is to be given in Sydney to the eight members who composed the minority in the Council.

On the 18th September, a great public meeting was held in Sydney to agree to a petition to Her Majesty, containing a protest against the provisions of the Constitution Bill, as opposed to the wishes and interests of the inhabitants, and to all sound principles of British liberty. The petitioners express a desire to see established a form of government framed in accordance with the genius and spirit of the Constitution of their mother country, and declare that the present Legislative Council does not, and cannot, represent the voice of the people of New South Wales, and is, therefore, incompetent to frame a Constitution which will be satisfactory to the inhabitants of the colony. They also pray Her Majesty to withhold her assent to any measure that may fail to embody the views and wishes of Her Majesty's loyal subjects and petitioners, and that some regard be paid to those views in any measure that may be laid before the Imperial Parliament. The petition was unanimously adopted by the meeting, the proceedings of which lasted for several hours. On this subject the correspondent of the *Times* writes:—

The proposed creation of a privileged class or order may be considered as abandoned, and, having been so soon and so readily given up, it was scarcely worth while to have suggested it at all. It is understood, however, that the Council will maintain the principle of nomination for the Upper Chamber at all hazards, and rather than give up that point, would refrain from making any change whatever in the present system.

The Legislative Council of Victoria had been opened on the 30th August. The speech of the Governor, Mr. Latrobe, contained an unexpected announcement, that it was the intention of the Government to abolish the gold-license fee. It appears that the attitude of the miners had become more threatening, and it had been found necessary to send the military force in Melbourne to the gold-fields. Up to the departure of the mail there had been no intelligence of any collision. For the next three months a fee of 2*l.* was to be collected; at the expiration of that period the act would have been passed abolishing the fee altogether, or reducing it to a nominal sum for the purpose of registration. This sudden change of policy on the part of the Government of Victoria would render it impossible to maintain the license fee on the fields of the province of New South Wales.

The Constitution Bill for Victoria, it is announced, will constitute the Upper Chamber of that colony on the elective principle.

In Victoria the daily yield of gold is estimated at fifty thousand pounds. Gold to the value of five million nine hundred and fifty-five pounds had already been shipped from that province this year. The population was still increasing. In the third week in September 375 persons arrived at Melbourne, and only 274 left. The number of inhabitants in the district is now 250,000. There was much confusion, and some disappointment, but the colony was rapidly rising. Some of the passengers who came home in the Victoria represent the social state of Melbourne as truly frightful, and say the new arrivals were experiencing fearful mortality. The new police, however, were doing their duty efficiently. They also state that trade in that city was still greatly depressed. The market price for gold at Melbourne is 3*l.* 17*s.*, and is rising.

Wonderful discoveries are making at the new Ballarat diggings. Three men in six days are said to have raised 192 lbs. weight of gold. The license fee has been commuted from 1*l.* 10*s.* per month to 2*l.* for the remainder of the year—ninety to 110 days. The diggings are healthy, and the diggers are adopting a more scientific mode than formerly; they sink a shaft, from six to twelve feet diameter, to a depth of from twenty to 100 feet, and from the base work radiating tunnels, which are connected at the outer ends by a circular tunnel. All the produce is sent up the shaft. Excepting one at Sydney, all the gold companies, especially the Peel River, are unsuccessful, in consequence of the heavy expenses. The projected railway to King William's Town (twenty miles) has not been begun, for want of labourers. About twenty or thirty merchant ships, with their topmasts struck, are lying useless in the port.

Several persons have been arrested in Victoria, on suspicion of being concerned in the robbery of the gold escort, but they have all been discharged for want of evidence. The wounded troopers are recovering.

The markets for all sorts of articles fluctuated, but the averages are evidently highly remunerative to the importers. The following are some of the quotations:—

Some land sales at Melbourne had realised 156*l.* per foot, or 13*l.* per inch frontage; fine flour, 83*s.*; seconds, 32*s.*; cauliflowers, 18*s.* to 24*s.* per dozen; geese, 25*s.* to 30*s.* each; fowls, per pair, 14*s.*; potatoes, 30*s.* per cwt.; butter, 4*s.* 6*d.* per lb.; hay, 35*s.* per ton; fat cattle, 35*s.* per 100 lb.; Burton ale, 6*s.* 6*d.* to 7*s.*; brandy, 13*s.* per gallon; champagne, 80*s.* to 35*s.* per dozen; brown Java sugar, 17*l.* to 21*l.* per ton; congou tea, 6*l.* to 7*l.* per chest; Java coffee, 7*l.* 6*d.* to 8*l.* per lb.; Barrat's negrohead, 2*s.* 3*d.* to 3*s.* per lb.; English cheese, 10*d.* to 1*s.* per lb.; Scotch iron, 14*l.* to 16*l.* per ton; sheet lead, 40*l.* to 45*l.*; deal battens, 7*s.* 6*d.* per foot; English cordage, 50*l.* to 60*l.* per ton. Slop clothing not remunerative; superior sorts sell better.

Labour-Market.—Married couple (no children), 70*l.* to 100*l.* per annum; with family, 60*l.* to 90*l.*; shepherds, 35*l.* to 40*l.*; general useful servants, 70*l.* to 75*l.*; gardeners, 70*l.* to 80*l.*; men cooks, 2*l.* to 4*l.* per week; carpenters, 20*s.* to 25*s.* per day; masons, 25*s.* to 30*s.*; blacksmiths, 20*s.* to 25*s.*; farm labourers, 25*s.* to 35*s.* (with rations) per week; seamen, for London, 45*l.* to 50*l.*; coasting, 9*l.* to 10*l.* per month.

Three vessels had ascended the Murray, 1,200 miles from sea. The navigation proved safe, the depth of water varying for immense distances from eighteen to thirty-six feet. The river is reported to be navigable much further than the Darling, one of its tributaries, for some 300 or 400 miles.

#### AMERICAN NOTES.

We again have advices of terrible mortality on board emigrant ships arrived at New York from this country and the Continent, while on the passage across the Atlantic. Since the sailing of the previous steamer, the ships *Marathon* and *New World* from Liverpool, and the *George Hurlbut*, from Havre, had arrived at New York with an aggregate loss of no fewer than 214 of their passengers.

John Mitchel, the Irish exile, whose escape from Van Diemen's Land, and arrival at San Francisco, have been already noticed, reached New York on the 29th ult. He was enthusiastically welcomed.

The steamer with the Californian mails had arrived at New York, bringing nearly three millions dollars' worth of gold dust. The intelligence from the mining districts is of the same satisfactory character as that for a considerable time past brought by each successive mail. The markets, however, were dull; they do not seem to have surmounted the evils of over-stocking.

A Washington correspondent of the *New York Herald* says that President Pierce, in his Message, will show himself favourable to the Pacific Railway scheme, if carried out by private enterprise.

Thanksgiving is becoming an American national festival. On the 26th November, twenty-three of the States of the Union held it under proclamations from their Governors.

From the Sandwich Islands advices report that a calm seemed to have followed the Ministerial storm. The new Government was moving on quietly. Prince Lot Kamehameha had resigned the Premiership, and Mr. John Young had been appointed in his stead. The question of annexation to the United States still engaged general attention. The smallpox had not ceased its ravages.

News from Tahiti states, the natives in the neighbourhood of Raiatea were engaged in civil war under two hostile chiefs, King Tamari and an opposing chief of the oldest family, named Tamatoa. The *ros populi* was decidedly with the latter, who did not seek to usurp the throne, but to redress grievances. The island was divided into two factions, and they were living in intrenchments, provoking each other to an attack. The old King could not be brought to give up some of his heathen rites, which involved very considerable oppression. He was perfectly willing to make good laws, but he could not be brought to understand why he should be compelled to observe them. A large body, on the other hand, were determined that there should be no difference between monarch and subjects before the law, and they had taken up arms in defence of this principle.

Mr. Crampton, the British Minister at Washington, has given great offence. At a concert, by Jullien, the band played "Hail Columbia;" and when all the audience stood up Mr. Crampton kept his seat.

The United States Government have resolved to fit out an expedition to explore the newly-discovered track for a ship-canal across the Isthmus of Darien. The track alluded to is that discovered by Mr. Lionel Gisborne.

Governor Marcy has met with no success in his negotiations with the British Minister on the fisheries. The Canadians, it is said, are determined to waive any reciprocity which does not involve the American registry for their vessels, and equal terms in our coasting trade, which will hardly be granted.

The health of the American President is not only poor, but exceedingly precarious.

From the Havannah there is nothing of importance. The first telegraph had been inaugurated.

Repudiation once more comes before us in connexion with the State of Mississippi, described as "the Holy Land of Repudiation, as Salt Valley is that of Mormonism." The Chancellor and Judges of the Court of Errors, the highest Court in the State, have, it will be recollected, decided in favour of the validity of its bonds, but the citizens of the State are taking the law into their own hands. As fast as the judges present themselves at the elections for the Legislature of the State they are rejected by the honest and patriotic repudiators. Judge Yerger has already paid the penalty of his unseemly leaning to the rights of the creditor; and Governor Foote has been rejected, there appears to be little doubt, for having shown the same ill-judged predilection. The citizens are in arms, and "Repudiation or death" is the battle-cry of the contest.

The American papers still abound in shocking illustrations of the working of slavery, and it is remarkable



that such facts find increasing currency in the London *Times*. One of these stories is to the effect, that a negro, belonging to a Mr. Birdsong, a farmer, in Sussex county, Virginia, who, with his fellow-slaves, had failed to report himself according to orders, called at the dwelling one evening, at dusk, to obtain his master's shoes for the purpose of blacking them. Upon making his appearance in the chamber, Birdsong called him to account for disobeying his order. Fearing chastisement, the negro ran out of the house; Birdsong followed him, but finding the man too fleet of foot, he put a ferocious bull-dog upon the track of the fugitive, and soon had the savage satisfaction of seeing the dog tear and lacerate the poor fellow. Birdsong then tied the slave and beat him so unmercifully as to cause death in a few hours. One of his eyes was knocked out. An inquest was held, which resulted in the finding of a verdict, that the deceased came to his death by sundry blows, &c., inflicted by his master, Henry Birdsong. The accused was immediately conveyed to the county gaol for trial.

Here is a case of most revolting injustice:—

A slaveholder, two years ago, agreed to sell a slave his freedom for a certain number of dollars. The poor fellow has been working early and late, and has just given his master some fifty more dollars than were agreed upon; but the wretched tyrant comes forward to rescind the contract and claim his slave. The case has been decided by the Hon. Judge Pryor in favour of the slaveholder. In delivering his decision, his Honour stated the following facts: 1. That the laws of Kentucky recognise but two modes of liberating slaves—by will, and by deeds of emancipation. 2. That a slave cannot make a contract. 3. That the contract was executory, and the time fixed for the negro's freedom future and contingent. 4. That so long as Sam was a slave, the master was entitled to his services, and the money he (the master) had received was, in law, his own. His Honour characterised the case as one of great hardship and cruelty, and every one in the court-room seemed to sympathise deeply with the poor negro. The case, we understand, has been appealed to the Supreme Court of the State.

#### FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

The Grand-Duke of Tuscany is residing at Pisa; where he and his family walk the streets like the plainest citizens.

Prince Napoleon Bonaparte has been returning, at Turin, the visit of the Duke de Genoa to Paris.

The committee appointed by the Peruvian Government to inquire, have reported that there are about 25,000,000 tons of guano on the Chincha Islands. But the Commander of the British Pacific Squadron has sent a communication to the Admiralty estimating the total at only 8,600,000 tons.

An aeronaut who ascended from Rome has been frozen to death in the air: the balloon descended near Mount Soracte.

The Roman Catholics of California have forwarded a present to Dr. John Henry Newman. It consists of a plain gold ring, weighing eighteen ounces, and bearing, instead of a seal, a nugget of pure gold. The Reverend M. Accolti, "superior of the Society of Jesus in Oregon," passed through New York on the 26th November, in charge of the gift, on his way to Europe.

A diplomatist assures us that as long as Louis Napoleon displays any wish to visit England, some part of the family of the King of Belgium will remain there. "It appears to me that King Leopold is playing a bold game," says my informant.—*Vienna Correspondent of the Times*.

The Reverend J. O'Donnell, a Roman Catholic priest in Portland, Maine, has denounced the Maine Liquor-law, as having increased instead of diminished drunkenness, misery, and crime among his people.

Ruth Emerson, mother of Ralph Waldo Emerson, died at Concord, Massachusetts, on the 16th November, in the eighty-fourth year of her age.

A literary treaty between France and Spain was signed at Madrid on the 26th ultimo.

An arrangement has been made with the French Government by which messages are conveyed by electric telegraph direct from London to Paris; hitherto they were transmitted across the Channel in the English signs, and were then translated into the French system and forwarded to Paris. The same boon has been conceded by the Belgian Government with regard to Brussels. Messages have been conveyed to Vienna in less than two hours.

On the morning of the 2nd inst., a comet was discovered by Mr. Klinkerfues, of the Gottingen Observatory, on the border of the Constellation Perseus, near the foot of Andromeda.

A shock of earthquake was felt at Algiers on the morning of the 25th ult., and on the same day a more severe shock was experienced at Boghar.

The Spanish Government has addressed a letter to Earl Granville, as President of the International Postage Association, in which a speedy reduction of postal rates in Spain is announced.

Queen Isabella, says a Madrid letter of the 3rd, performs daily pilgrimage to one or other of the churches of the capital, having undertaken to visit nine of them in the course of nine days, as the time of her delivery approaches.

General Von Radowitz, whose recovery was so far despaired of that he received extreme unction, is sufficiently convalescent to receive a visit from the King of Prussia which has hitherto been forbidden, for fear of the patient's sinking under the excitement.

Letters from Naples announce that another ancient town has been discovered several feet under ground, between Acerno and Scaffari. It is stated that it does not resemble Herculaneum or Pompeii in any respect.

THE MARYLEBONE FREE LIBRARY, at 27, Gloucester-place, New-road, is to be opened on the 1st January, 1854. The doors will be open from ten A.M. to ten P.M.

#### Law, Assize, and Police.

The Holywell-street nuisance is being vigorously assailed. Last week we recorded the punishment of Dugdale and Dyer. On Wednesday last, Lord Campbell gave judgment in the Queen's Bench, against two other persons convicted of the publication and sale of obscene and indecent books. In the case of Duncombe, the foreman of the jury having delivered the verdict of Guilty, added a recommendation to mercy. Lord Campbell, with great warmth, exclaimed: "Mercy! Sir? I should like to know upon what ground? I trust not, for the sake of trial by jury. Recommend to mercy a man who sells poison!" Several of the jurymen here said they had not agreed to recommend the defendant to mercy: they had heard nothing of it. The foreman said the ground upon which he wished to recommend the defendant to mercy was, that he believed he had been entrapped into the sale. It turned out, however, that there had been a previous conviction. The other defendant, Cannon, pleaded "guilty." When Duncombe was arrested, there were found in his house 294 obscene prints, sixty-four obscene books, 573 obscene songs, sixty pounds weight of obscene letterpress, and thirty-one pounds weight of stereotyped obscene letterpress. In the house occupied by Cannon, there were 2,115 obscene prints, nine copper-plates, eighty-one obscene books, and other matters of a most disgusting description. Lord Campbell said the moral guilt incurred by the two defendants was greater than that of housebreakers. Their crime deserved a very severe punishment, but as it was in law only a misdemeanour, the sentence upon each of them respectively was, that they be confined in the House of Correction for the county of Middlesex, and kept to hard labour, for the space of two years.

William Morton, whose history as "a landshark" we recently gave from the Bankruptcy Court reports, was indicted, on Monday, with one Cruchley, for a conspiracy to obtain money on false pretences. They had obtained 2,000*l.* from the widow of the Rev. Arthur Onslow. Morton was found guilty, but not sentenced. Cruchley did not surrender, but was brought up from the Queen's Bench, and his trial postponed.

The principal criminal business of the Northern Circuit has arisen out of the recent strikes. A man named Snape has been convicted of cutting and wounding Mr. Crompton, a master dyer, at Manchester. Mr. Baron Martin, in passing sentence, said that, admitting the right of all who worked to judge for themselves whether they should do so or not, yet to go, as the prisoner had done, with others, to Mr. Crompton's, armed with bludgeons and staves, like policemen, attached with string to the wrist, and there make the assault described, was a most gross outrage. Two other men had been tried and convicted of this same offence at the last assizes; and had it not been for the sentence passed by the learned Judge who tried them, he should have felt it his duty to have sentenced the prisoner to be transported for the full period allowed by the law. The learned Judge had sentenced those two men to be transported for seven years. He should pass a sentence which would be analogous to that of transportation for seven years—that of four years' penal servitude; and as it was the first time that the new act had been carried into effect at assizes, he wished to state that the sentence passed would be carried out to the fullest extent. The prisoner would be kept working like a slave for four years, and a severe punishment it would be found.—Thomas Bertwistle, William Slater, Richard Dickinson, and Benjamin Oddie, were each sentenced to one year's imprisonment for an unlawful assault.

A young man and three boys were found guilty of taking part in the late riot at Wigan, destroying the premises in which the masters had assembled, &c. Some property taken from the shops during the riot, was found on the boys. They were sentenced to three months' imprisonment each, and the elder prisoner to twelve months'.

One Copeland, charged with murdering a policeman, at the late election of aldermen at Liverpool, was found guilty of manslaughter. He had been one of a mob who beset the voters, insisting upon having drink. He struck a policeman, and was pursued to his house, where he drew a knife and stabbed the deceased. His lordship, in passing sentence, said that the prevalence of the use of the knife in Liverpool required an awful example to be made. "The sentence is that you, Thomas Copeland, be transported for the term of your life."

Thomas Morris, of Stockport, was tried for the murder of his two stepchildren; but acquitted. The 20*l.* allowed by the burial club on their death was the alleged motive for the murder.

The tragi-comedy of "Albert and Emma" has been brought to a conclusion at the *Su ray* sessions; where Miss Emma Agnes Bedell, convicted of robbing the innkeeper with whom she lived as nursery governess, of money to spend on her youthful admirer, was sentenced to four years' penal servitude. She persisted that she was not thirty-three years of age—only twenty-five.

At the Middlesex sessions, one Finnigan was charged with throwing a child into the water whereby it was drowned. The prisoner had been deaf and dumb from his birth, and not being able to plead, the jury were sworn to try whether the prisoner stood mute by malice or by the visitation of God. Mr. Patteson, the master of the lunatic asylum at Manchester, was then sworn, and stated that he had seen the prisoner and known him for five years, and that he believed him to stand mute by the visitation of God, upon which his lordship charged the jury, and they found a verdict accordingly. The chief evidence was

that of a boy-witness, who did not speak of the occurrence to his mother until the next evening. The answers of this witness were so vague that it was evident that it would not be safe to convict of so serious a charge upon such testimony, entirely uncorroborated. His lordship entertaining this view, the jury at once returned a verdict of acquittal.

At the same court, William Taylor, a wretched-looking boy, thirteen years of age, was convicted of stealing a loaf of bread, the property of James Gedder. Two years ago he was sentenced to two months' imprisonment for stealing sweetmeats.—The boy, crying, said he had no parents, his father being dead and his mother in the workhouse; since he came out of prison he had tried to live by selling water-cresses for his brother, but could not.—A jurymen asked why the parish the boy belonged to did not do something for him?—The Assistant-Judge said the reason of that was, that the moment a boy was convicted, so absurd was the law, the parish was relieved from all further charge of him. The parents of a prisoner were obliged to keep him before he was convicted, but not afterwards, and the parish was placed in the same position. Instead of this, the law ought to compel his parish to look after him after conviction, and then they would be more careful about his getting into prison. Was it not dreadful to look at the present case? What could the Court do? Nothing but send him to prison, with recommendation for Redhill. But this was a great expense to the Government—not any to the parish of a prisoner or his parents. This was not a case in which he could take that course—a boy merely stealing a bit of bread. The jury had recommended him to mercy, and, though he had been before in prison, it was two years ago, and for stealing sweetmeats, and he should only give him a slight punishment. He then sentenced the prisoner to one month's hard labour.

Sir Robert Carden is conspicuous among aldermen for his ill opinion of street beggars. The other day, he brought up to Guildhall a boy who had accosted him for alms. The boy's own account of himself was that he had left Worcester because he could only earn four shillings a week there, and had walked up to London. The governor and gaolers of the Holloway prison, however, recognised him as having been twice lately under their charge.—Alderman Farebrother: You have had fourteen days on two occasions, I shall now try the effect of twenty-one days and low diet; and if ever you come here again, I shall order a whipping.—Prisoner: Thank you, and I hope you may stick there till I come back again.—Alderman Farebrother called the prisoner back, and, after giving him an admonition, said "there would be plenty of time to consider the propriety of ordering a whipping before the twenty-one days expired, for insulting the bench."—On Thursday, a girl whom Sir Robert had brought up for the same offence, was sent to the union house, to keep her from the idle, drunken woman who claimed her.

At Bow-street, on Friday, a boy and girl were charged with pocket picking. The female prisoner, dressed in white cotton, and having her head enveloped in a white handkerchief, had been seen for some nights past in Holborn, attracting crowds of persons by her vocal exertions. The boy acted ostensibly as collector of the public pence, but some of the detective police, after carefully watching the two, arrived at the conclusion that the male prisoner carried on the business of pocket-picking, while pretending to collect donations—the girl aiding and abetting him by causing the crowds to assemble. A constable identified the boy as an expert pick-pocket, who had been previously convicted. The girl declared that she had been in a situation at Peckham, as domestic servant, for the last twelve months, and had only lately taken to street singing, in consequence of being subject to fits. She said she did not know the other prisoner. Mr. Jardine committed the boy for six months, and dismissed the girl with a suitable caution.

Another gang of advertising swindlers has been exposed by an application at Guildhall. A young man named Walter Baker answered an advertisement in the *Times* newspaper, requiring a young man to take the management of a coffee-house that was about to be opened in the Old Bailey. He called at 67, and saw a person there who represented that the house was to be opened in a short time, and that a quantity of valuable furniture was already moved into the upper apartments. He paid that person 1*l.* deposit, arranged all the necessary terms, and received the following acknowledgment: "Nov. 30, 1853. Received of Mr. Baker the sum of 1*l.* deposit, being part of the sum of 20*l.*, for to take the management of a coffee-house at 67, Old Bailey; the remainder to be paid by Tuesday next or Wednesday, or the 1*l.* to be forfeited. John Franklin."—He had called since and found that Mr. Franklin was not to be seen, but that the premises had changed hands soon after he paid the deposit, and he had reason to believe it was only a nest of swindlers, for there were twenty or thirty others in the same position as himself. An officer in court said that system had been carried on for the last four or five months, and the gang consisted of about six or seven men, who took it in turns to occupy the house in question. They were continually moving goods in and out belonging to the different members of the fraternity, as they took their turn to become proprietors for a week. Alderman Copeland said, if it could be proved that more than one or two acted in concert to defraud the applicant of the money he had paid, then they could be indicted for a conspiracy. At present, the only remedy the applicant had was by proceeding in the County Court.

Another species of swindling, practised on sailors in the east of London, is sometimes defeated by magisterial firmness. At the Thames court on Wednesday, Henry Wiggins, keeper of a lodging-house for sailors, of 3, Johnson-street, Shadwell, was charged with withholding 20*l.* from John Hall, a seaman. The com-



plaintant stated that on the previous Tuesday he went with the defendant's wife, and drew 27*l*. from Green's Sailor's Home, at Poplar. On returning to her place she asked him to deposit his money with her, she would put it securely in a separate drawer in her own bedroom, of which he should have the key. He agreed to this, and gave her five five-pound notes, but did not take their numbers. Before leaving the house he got one of the notes, and they went together towards Whitechapel. On the way she fixed her eye on a brooch, to which she asked him to treat her. He refused to do so, on which she turned sulky. She had the 20*l*. of his in her hands, and when he asked her husband for it on Friday last, he denied any knowledge of the money.

Mr. Yardley (to the defendant): Will you give this man his 20*l*? Defendant: I never had it.

Mr. Yardley: None of your fencing, Sir; your wife had. Give it back, or you must undergo the consequences. I dare say you have heard how I visit those who plunder these poor seamen?—Defendant: I know nothing about the money. He never gave me it.

Mr. Yardley: He gave it to your wife, and she is your agent for that purpose.—Defendant: I do not think he did. I am sure he did not.

Mr. Yardley: I am sure he did, and unless you return the man his money I shall make an example of you.—Defendant: I cannot return what I have not had.

Mr. Yardley: Well, as you persist in the fraud, I order you to pay the 20*l*, with 10*l*. penalty, or to be imprisoned for six months, with hard labour.

Here a fashionably-dressed, dark-eyed, good-looking young woman exclaimed, "This is too bad."

Mr. Yardley: You are the wife, I suppose, and the principal in the transaction. Do not stand chattering there, but go home and get the money.

The woman returned after a short time with the amount, and received a lecture from the magistrate, which, however, seemed to produce but little effect.

At Marlborough-street, Josephine Collins, a French woman of respectable appearance, has been committed, charged with having stolen property from the shops of an immense number of tradesmen, principally at the west end of the town. Since the apprehension of the prisoner, nearly 200 tradesmen and tradesmen's assistants have been to see her, and nearly all have recognised her as having made her appearance in their shops, and have stated that property was missed after she had quitted.

The dustyard, it seems, has friends among the highest chemical authorities. Mr. Reddin, the dust contractor, of Southwark, was summoned the other day for allowing dung and other street sweepings to accumulate in his yard. His counsel called Dr. Letherby, physician and professor of chemistry at the London Hospital, who said that he had examined defendant's premises that morning, and there was no deleterious matter there, or anything injurious to the health of the inhabitants in the neighbourhood. There was a very large heap, but no offensive smell arose from it. Wet street sweepings had a deodorising effect on animal matter when placed over it. He could positively swear that such was the case in the defendant's yard. Mr. John Henry Pepper, lecturer on chemistry at the Polytechnic Institution, also said he examined defendant's premises, and found nothing offensive or injurious to health. Mr. Way consulting chemist to the Agricultural Society, said that the scavenger of London streets, when in contact with animal and vegetable matter, deodorised it. He knew that from experience, having tested it at Tiptree Hall with animal offal. He tried an experiment in the yard that morning by mixing some liquid offensive matters in a pail with street sweepings, and found such to be the fact instantaneously. He considered that there was nothing offensive or injurious to health in the defendant's yard.—Mr. A. Beckett here said that after hearing such testimony from men who were proficient in their business, he could do no other than dismiss the summons.

The detective police have laid hold of three men—Parker, Saunders, and Marshall—on suspicion of having perpetrated the Leighton Buzzard burglary. They were known to be confederates—a very complete set of burglar's instruments was found in their possession—one of them admitted that he was in the town on the night of the robbery—a cab-driver took them up on the next morning at Maida-hill, and the jeweller identified a gold chain pawned by Saunders. On this evidence they were remanded.

Several brutal cases of assault on women are reported for the past week. In one of these, a wife had her arm nearly chopped off by her husband's cleaver.

A novel cause came before the Cheltenham county court last week. George Micklewright, a pupil at the Cheltenham Grammar School, brought, through his father, an action against Dr. Humphreys, the master of the school. From the evidence it appears that on two occasions Dr. Humphreys had ordered the boy to be flogged, the first time with twelve, the second time with eighteen "lashes." These lashes were administered with a riding-whip, by a drill-sergeant employed at the school. As might be expected, the boy's back was dreadfully cut. Mrs. Crawford said it looked like "newly-cut meat;" the Rev. J. L. Penington said, "I was so horror-stricken at the sight, I could not look closely." Golightly, a boy flogged some months ago, is still under medical treatment. The offences of Micklewright were quarrelling with another boy and throwing a firework in the fire. The Judge said, Dr. Humphreys ought to have investigated the first case more closely; and certainly the flogging ought not to have been administered by a drill-sergeant.—Damages, four guineas.

MRS. MARGARET CATCHPOLE, the heroine of the Rev. R. Cobbold's novel bearing her name, is about to emigrate to Australia.

#### INHUMAN TREATMENT OF AN INFANT.

A long investigation has been held by Coroner Wakley respecting the death of Thomas Walsh, an infant two months old. The parents were inmates of Marylebone workhouse in the early part of the year; they left it at their own request. Walsh is a marble-polisher; but he is paralysed, and cannot follow his trade, so that he has latterly had a hard struggle for an existence of the lowest kind. His wife appears almost imbecile. She was confined on the 26th Sept. The Walshes were then in great distress; they received out-door relief, but quite inadequate for their support. Afterwards, they became houseless. They applied to be admitted into the workhouse; but were not, though the out-door relief was continued. One night they were on the workhouse steps for hours; but the porter did not admit them, or inform the master that they were there. On another occasion, they walked the streets nearly all night. At five o'clock in the evening of the 22nd November, the infant died in the mother's arms, in the street, near St. Giles's Church. She had covered it up as warmly as she could with ragged garments, and hugged it close to her body to shield it further from the weather—indeed, she seems to have been fatally over-careful of the child. Mr. Joseph, a surgeon, had seen the child some days before; it was then plump and healthy: from a *post mortem* examination, he thought that death had been caused by congestion of the lungs from breathing impure air; he presumed the poor mother had caused this suffocation in endeavouring to keep the child warm while wandering in the streets. Of course, if the parents had been in the workhouse the infant would not have been exposed to this fate. The Coroner remarked, that this was an important case; for if the poor-law were carried out generally as it had been in this instance, it would be a curse rather than a blessing to the poor, as no man could know his fate if he became utterly destitute. The Poor-law Commissioners had decided that even a casual pauper who is houseless is entitled to admission; in this case the Walshes had a settlement, and had actually been in the house six months before. The jury found this verdict: "That James Walsh died on the 22nd day of November, 1853, from congestion and inflammation, caused by cold and exposure to the night-air; and the jury are unanimously of opinion that great culpability attaches to Messrs. Poland and Russell, Directors of the Poor, and to Mr. Messer, Assistant-Overseer, for not admitting the child and parents into the Workhouse when application had been made by the parents of the deceased, stating that they were utterly destitute."

The Poor-law Board considers the evidence produced before Mr. Coroner Wakley, at the inquest on the body of the infant Walsh, "is of such a nature as, in the opinion of the Board, to render it incumbent upon them to hold an official inquiry into all the circumstances; and they have accordingly intrusted their inspector at once to institute such inquiry." This determination was officially notified to the Board of Guardians which met on Friday. Dr. Russell and Mr. Messer complain of unfair proceedings at the coroner's inquest.

#### Postscript.

##### RUSSIA AND TURKEY.

On the 3rd inst., the news of the disaster at Sinope was known at Constantinople. Upon the receipt of this information, the British and French Ambassadors had immediately despatched two steam-frigates from the combined squadrons to Sinope, and two other steam-frigates to Varna, for the purpose of procuring precise intelligence. Upon the return of these vessels it was thought probable that the combined fleets would receive orders to enter the Black Sea, to prevent, if possible, any further naval collision between the Russian and Turkish naval forces.

Despatches from Vienna have reached Paris stating that four of the large Russian vessels engaged in that encounter are so crippled that it will be many months before they can again show themselves in action. Another despatch has been published, according to which the Russians lost in the affair of Sinope two ships of the line, three frigates, and two steamboats. It is added that their force consisted of twelve frigates, a brig, and five steamboats, besides the six ships of the line mentioned in the *Moniteur*.

A letter from Constantinople of the 28th ult. announces that the two corps of Batoum and Anatolia were advancing on the Russian territory, and were to unite at Tiflis. The majority of the inhabitants of Georgia had declared in favour of the Turks. The Turkish division of Bajazid entered the Russian territory in the province of Erivan on the 27th October. The Russian advanced-guard having been attacked by 3,000 Bashi-Bozouks, who preceded the Turkish division, were completely routed, and the Turks continued their march to Erivan. Abdi Pasha entered the Russian territory in Georgia on the 10th November, with the greater portion of his army.

With respect to the new conference, the following important article appeared on the 10th inst., in a Russian semi-official journal:—

"The basis of the new project of mediation (that which is put forward by the Four Powers) is the maintenance of the previously existing treaties between Russia and Turkey. The Vienna protocol pronounces in favour of the integrity of the Ottoman empire, but at the same time also in favour of the maintenance of the treaties of Kutchuk Kaimardji and of

Adrianople." Moreover, proceeds the same authority, the proposals for peace which Turkey is invited to make may be modified by further negotiations should they not obtain the assent of Russia.

"The negotiations relative to the treaty of peace will take place directly between the plenipotentiaries of the belligerent Powers and the participation of European diplomacy will be limited to softening down the opposition of litigious pretensions by its conciliatory intervention.

"It is evident," says the semi-official writer, "that in acting thus the Four Powers have no intention of meddling in the difference itself, as indeed they have no right to do. Such conduct would be improper towards the Turkish Government engaged in defending the sovereign rights, which it deems menaced, by all means in its power; it would be completely absurd towards the Russian empire, the dignity and position of which as a State, represented by a distinguished Sovereign, and the patriotism of a powerful nation, form an essential basis of European equilibrium and social order."

According to accounts from Vienna ever since the collective note was despatched to Constantinople, the conferences of the Ambassadors have been long and frequent. The export of arms and ammunition to Bosnia has been prohibited by an order of the Austrian Government. The Christian population of Bosnia is in a state of great excitement.

Riots have taken place at Galatz between the Wallachian militia and the Russian troops. A battalion of the Wallachians refused to obey the orders of a Russian general. The battalion in question and four companies of Wallachians were consigned to their barracks.

It is reported that the British Chargé d'Affaires at Teheran had suspended his diplomatic relations with the Persian Government, in consequence of that Power having resolved, as it is said, to take part against the Ottoman Porte, and to march an army to the frontier.

It is believed that the report of the probable negotiation of a Turkish five per cent. loan in Paris for 4,000,000*l*., through some of the financial institutions lately organised, is not without foundation. The Government, it is said, are disposed to promote it, but, in return, a condition will be exacted that the Sultan shall bind himself unreservedly to consent to whatever terms of adjustment with Russia the allied Powers may think proper to propose.

#### SUSPENSION OF THE SPANISH CORTES.

The Government, defeated in the Senate on the railway question, by a majority of 105 to 69, has suspended the sitting of the Cortes for an indefinite period. The despatch does not state that the session of the legislature is closed, as it was last year, by General Lersundi's Cabinet; the Cortes may, therefore, be called together at any moment by the Queen; still a *coup d'état* is anticipated.

A letter from Lisbon, in the *Heraldo* of Madrid, of the 7th, says that the King-Regent of Portugal intended to demand from the Cortes to proclaim the majority of his son King Pedro V.; also that it was reported that the young King intended to make a journey in Spain and Portugal.

The correspondent of the *Daily News*, writing from Naples, Dec. 4, says: "I am sorry to inform you that Baron Poerio, who has now worn the chains of galley slave for more than four years, is subject to fresh severities, which, if continued, will ere long remove him from the troubles of this world."

The Government of Baden has informed the various German Governments of the quarrel between the Grand-Duke's Cabinet and the Archbishop of Freiburg. That prelate still insists on suspending the priests who refuse implicit obedience to his orders, and the Government, in its turn, continues its coercive measures against the priests who obey the orders of the Archbishop.

The Registrar-General's report of the health of London during the past week is comparatively satisfactory. The deaths were 1,308 against 1,414 in the preceding week, the average being 1,337. The increase in the deaths caused by diseases of the respiratory organs has been the principal feature of late returns. The numbers referred to this class have been in the last four weeks 180, 297, 379, and 343. From phthisis in the tubercular class, they were in the same periods 133, 165, 175, and 157. Last week, bronchitis was fatal in 159 cases, while the corrected average of ten corresponding weeks (in 1843-52) was 113; pneumonia was fatal in 142, while the same average was 134. Typhus and hooping-cough predominate at present among epidemic diseases, the former numbering 64 fatal cases, the latter 56. The cholera cases are reduced to 16.

A number of English military officers have obtained leave of absence from the Commander-in-Chief to proceed to the Danube to be spectators of the operations between the rival armies. The permission having been previously refused by the Adjutant-General, Sir G. Brown, that officer has resigned, and is to be succeeded by Lieutenant-General Cathcart, Commander-in-Chief at the Cape.

It appears that Monday, the 26th instant, is likely to be observed as a general holiday throughout the country. Although the Bank of England must remain open, the Stock Exchange and other public establishments will be closed.

#### CORN EXCHANGE, MARK-LANE, WEDNESDAY, DEC. 14.

We have a good demand for wheat to-day, at an improvement on Monday's rates of 1*s* to 2*s* per quarter. For oats also there is more inquiry, at an advance of 6*d* per quarter. Other articles fully as dear.

	ARRIVALS THIS WEEK:—		
	ENGLISH.	IRISH.	FOREIGN.
Wheat ....	Qrs. 1250	Qrs. —	Qrs. 29980
Barley ....	4750	400	3400
Oats .....	2280	1510	18000
Flour ....	1040	—	1400 sacks
			2000 Irish



## TO ADVERTISERS.

The NONCONFORMIST is a family journal, and, as such, affords an excellent medium for advertisements of Assurance Companies, Schools, Philanthropic and Religious Societies, Books, Situations, and Tradesmen's announcements, &c.

The advertisement duty having been repealed, we charge according to the space occupied; viz., 6d. per line up to eight lines, and 3d. per line beyond eight lines.

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"D. T. Fish." The Crosby Hall Lectures, published by Mr. Snow, are, in our opinion, the most complete condemnation of the principle of State Education.

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\* We regret that in consequence of a pressure of matter we have been obliged to omit more than a page of Advertisements.

A SUPPLEMENT, containing COPIOUS REVIEWS of CHRISTMAS BOOKS, and the INDEX for the YEAR'S VOLUME, will be PUBLISHED with our Number of the 28th INST.

## The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1853.

## SUMMARY.

ONCE more the negotiations for peace between Russia and Turkey have been interrupted by the shock of arms. Those successes which it was concluded the Czar would obtain on land have eluded his grasp, while on the unstable element his ships of war have gained an unexpected advantage. The naval engagement took place near Sinope, half-way between Constantinople and Trebizond, a city celebrated as the ancient capital of Pontus, and the birthplace of Diogenes, the Cynic, but now noted only for the memorials of its early greatness and the remains of a modern Turkish arsenal. While the main body of the Turkish fleet rode safely at anchor in the Bosphorus, it would seem that a flotilla, with troops and ammunition for the army of Asia, was intercepted on its way to Batoum by a Russian fleet of six sail-of-the-line. It is probable that the Turkish squadron sought refuge in the roads of Sinope. There they were attacked by the superior force of the enemy, and after an hour's obstinate engagement, seven frigates, two corvettes, a steam-ship, and three transports were (according to the Russian bulletin) destroyed. We are ignorant of the loss sustained by the victors, although that was probably severe. The net result of the engagement would seem to be that, by the fortune of war, a Russian squadron of great strength had succeeded in destroying a number of Turkish vessels, utterly incompetent to overcome the enormous disparity in men and guns. It is simply a triumph of superior force.

We have yet to learn the result of this Russian advantage. Recent experience does not warrant us in concluding that it will increase the disposition of either of the belligerents to a pacific settlement of the quarrel; for while the successes of the Turks on the Danube and in Asia induce the Porte to insist upon the evacuation of the Principalities as a preliminary to negotiation, the Czar treats the Principalities as a permanent possession. The bearing of this event upon the policy of the two Western Powers is a still more interesting question for speculation. It appears that two steam-frigates from the combined squadron have been despatched to Sinope and two other vessels to Varna, for the purpose of procuring precise information, and it is supposed that upon their return the fleet of the Western Powers would enter the Black Sea for the purpose of preventing any further collision between the belligerents. Such a course would be tantamount

to taking part against Russia, and would probably be so regarded by the Czar; for if Turkey has a safe passage for all her reinforcements from Constantinople to Batoum, the tide of victory in Asia will almost of a certainty continue in her favour. It seems as though the fleets of the Western Powers must inevitably be drawn into the conflict.

Unfortunately the anticipation of an early settlement of the dispute from the new "protocol" between the four Powers is materially reduced by the statement that Austria and Prussia do not feel bound by that treaty to do more than recommend a pacific arrangement to the Czar, on the basis of the integrity of the Ottoman empire, and the maintenance of existing treaties. The new protocol was signed at Vienna on the 5th, and forwarded to the Porte on the 7th, with an urgent demand that an armistice be concluded in order that negotiations may be at once resumed by the belligerents themselves, under the auspices of the mediating Powers. Under present circumstances the resumption of negotiations is almost hopeless.

With the finest winter weather—dry, cold, bright days, and dry, cold, moonlight nights—we have a slight improvement in the health of the metropolis. Perhaps, it is to no more substantial cause than this of atmospheric influences we should attribute the buoyancy of public feeling. Christmas promises to find us not less jovial than at his last visit, despite an interval of continually-augmenting prices, obstinate domestic struggles, and threatened war. The agriculturists—with whom grumbling is a chronic complaint—go up and down the avenues of Baker-street and Smith-field, rejoicing over beeves, sheep, and pigs, rather for their fleshliness than fat; remark to each other that, unprecedented as is the supply and lofty the price, demand is still insatiate; and refuse to dull their ruddy faces at the warning that guano islands are of proven limit. Householders cheer themselves with the belief that coals have reached a culminating figure, and therefore pile higher the blazing heap as the mercury sinks in the tube. Even the twenty-five or thirty thousand "hands" at Preston, that alone of the millions of English operatives are idle, feed on something more solid than promises; every week's arrival of contributions exceeding the previous, and a reserve fund accumulating for the week in which the absence of traditional indulgences might provoke to despair and surrender.

In home politics there is—not unhappily—nothing doing. The Reform Bill controversy meanders through columns of scholarly writing, rather busying itself just now with the ancient Greek than the modern British suffrage. The City Commission has adjourned itself *sine die*—a form of prorogation till "after the holidays," which schoolboys would just now appreciate. Deputations to Lord Palmerston and Sir William Molesworth leave Downing-street in the faith that a great deal is to be done next session for the cleansing of London, and that by enabling London to cleanse itself. The Court of Common Council more than neutralises, by hustling Mr. Bennoch out of doors, the diversion attempted by good Sir Peter Laurie. And, leaping from one corrupt Corporation to another, and larger,—Lord Aberdeen has rung in the ears of Protestant Dissenting Deputies the knell of Church-rates.

France has formally protested, after the lapse of nearly forty years, against an act which the world has all along been nearly unanimous in reprobating; and the reproach of which all the Royal houses of Europe share with that of the Bourbons. One day last week, on the spot where Marshal Ney was shot—a spot in the garden of the Luxembourg hitherto marked only by a wooden cross—a colossal statue to his memory was set up, with all the honours that the State could bestow. Of principles no less than of personages, is there truth in the words of M. Dupin—orator of the day—"The slain will sometimes arise in the attitude of command!"—The Tuscan and Papal Governments have united in usage of a British subject—a Gibraltar merchant—travelling in Italy; invading his lodgings; locking him up with malefactors; and passing him from the prisons of the Grand-Duke to those of the Pope—which demands strictest investigation,

and firmest remonstrance.—The Spanish Ministry, defeated on the railway question, has suspended the sittings of the Cortes; the favourite *coup d'état* of Peninsular Constitutionalists.—In the colony of Victoria, the gold license has been virtually given up, by Mr. Ex-Governor Latrobe, to an armed mob of miners; a concession to be regretted chiefly because it was thus extorted.—Lastly, our American kinsmen in the Mississippi States renew their repudiation of that old virtue of the race—commercial integrity; and welcome, in California, with flatulent enthusiasm, the last-escaped of the Irish political convicts,—for which we can more easily forgive them.

## THE MORALITY OF THE STICK.

THE more intently we reflect upon the matter, the more reason do we see for dissenting from the proposal to prohibit the sale of intoxicating drinks by force of law. Such a step, as it appears to us, would infallibly prove to be one of those short-sighted expedients, by no means uncommon in the annals of society, which, in too hasty a pursuit of an admitted good, disregards some leading principle of God's moral government, and, in the end, introduces greater confusion than it corrects. We are sensible, indeed, of the profound disadvantage under which men labour, when opposing an immediate practical benefit in deference to a general theoretical standard of right and wrong. We know how captivating to benevolent enthusiasm is the short method of putting a present end to evil by stringent authority—and how tedious it must appear to eradicate a moral disease by moral remedies alone. But we have learnt, notwithstanding, to attach a higher importance to a strict observance of first principles, than to any temporary gain to be derived from a violation of them. Neither in surgery, nor in social economy, are we enamoured of amputation—and, as in the first, so in the last, violence is often a substitute resorted to by those who are lacking in faith and patience.

Several of our correspondents have charged us with inconsistency, because we encouraged the suppression of betting-houses, but refuse to concur in prohibiting the sale of intoxicating drinks. One of them has furnished an amusing plea from our own words in favour of the Maine Liquor Law, by simply exchanging the words "betting" for "drunkenness," and "betting-shops" for "drunkeneries." Now, the radical difference between betting and drunkenness may not be much—for vice is vice, however one may call it. But the proper parallelism between the two cases is concealed by a dexterous misapplication of terms. "Betting" should be put on a par with "taking alcoholic beverage," and "betting-houses" should be paralleled by "places where such beverage may be obtained." Betting is a *vice*—drinking beer, or wine, is not a vice, although it often *leads* to it. A betting-house is a place set up for making a profit by the indulgence of vice. A public-house is established for the sale of malt liquors, wines, and spirits. We consent to attack the one because it is, *per se*, and in its own nature, evil. We decline to attack the other, because it is not evil *per se*, but is only liable to be made an occasion of evil. Betting is not a vice arising out of excess in what is lawful, but is itself to be condemned—drunkenness is purely a *vice of excess* arising from inadequate self-control. The moral sense of society revolts from putting into the category of vices the mere act of taking a vinous or alcoholic stimulant—and until our correspondents learn to distinguish between a lawful indulgence, and an intemperate gratification, we fear we shall not be much enlightened by their lucubrations.

To return, however, to our main position, from which the foregoing paragraph is scarcely a digression, we observe that providential law invariably proceeds upon the principle of improving men by self-discipline—that human law is, in its design, essentially and exclusively protective—and that the supercession of the former by the latter can only be justified when the very existence of society is threatened by a general breaking down of all the safeguards of self-restraint.

At once, then, and without qualification, we reject all the arguments in behalf of the Maine Liquor Law, grounded upon the personal misery



produced by drunkenness, and the personal degradation, disease, and death which, when habitually indulged in, it invariably entails. Excesses of all kinds are appropriately punished. Violated nature avenges herself. God has inscribed upon all His gifts to man, what man's experience soon renders visible: "Thus far you may use them, but no farther." The loss of reason, of speech, and, at last, of sensibility—the heaving stomach—the aching head—the trembling hand—the collapse of animal spirits—to say nothing of the graver physical evils, which follow a long course of intemperance, are all of them divine teachings addressed to the conscience, and they impressively warn men to govern their appetites, and to put a bridle upon their passions. And mark! the self-command which grows out of trial, is a higher result in all respects than the non-indulgence which is the consequence of the absence of temptation. To nourish us into strength in the government of ourselves is the only visible reason for leaving us exposed to such a multitude of evils. Not to cut off opportunity, but to arm the man to meet it, is the method, so far as we can discover it, of Infinite Wisdom, and our impatience with the present mixture of evil and good, argues nothing but our own distrust of His plan of administration.

But again, by attacking the outward occasions of mischief, instead of dealing with the internal causes of it, we do but alter the form of depravity, and seldom diminish its vitality. It is easy to drive vice beneath the surface—not so easy to staunch the sources of it. We may prevent the sale of intoxicating drinks—are we certain that we shall not drive men to the use of stupefying drugs? But if not—if a Maine Liquor Law for Great Britain should prove a decided success, may we not reasonably fear the application of so efficacious a remedy in many other directions? May we not see it right to regulate marriages, to compel education, to place literature under a censorship, and to ward off from society all the evils which can overtake it during the imprudent conduct of individuals? What would be the result? As a community, we should suffer less, and we should be less. We should escape some mischief and we should lose more good. We should retreat towards a second childhood; and be, for a second time, put under tutors and governors. May it never be our lot to live amongst a people made virtuous by law—a people whose minds and morals are kept straight by the irons and pads of civil law—a people who have no falls because provided by Parliament with go-carts—a people of passive and negative worth of character only, kept orderly whilst the eye of a governor is upon them, but, when left to themselves, helpless as Russian serfs! Do not our friends know that "out of the nettle, danger," they must "pluck the flower, safety?"

In truth, we are alarmed at the tendencies of the times in these respects. We see an increasing *penchant* for legislative preventives of moral wrongs. Results are everything, now-a-days, and processes nothing. Superficial cuttings and scarifications are the quack nostrums for diseases bred in the constitution. Would it not be better, if possible, to put up one-half of the community in prison, and employ the other half in watching over them? From what a world of license would such an arrangement save us! Aye! but whilst men gathered up the tares, they would gather up the wheat also. On the whole, perhaps, the wisest method is that of letting "both grow together until the harvest." No preponderant good comes out of forcing humanity to be virtuous.

We shall take a future occasion to deal with the remaining branches of this question.

#### THE VICE OF ALMSGIVING.

As there are "vices that lean to virtue's side," so are there virtues which have a strong proclivity towards social offensiveness. Of no disposition is this more true than of that which bears the name of charity, and takes the form of almsgiving. The objects of this sentiment or habit are in so great a majority of cases the victims of their own indolence, imprudence, or more positive ill-doing, that direct assistance is equally unjust with absolute neglect; and the

modern beggar is, with so few exceptions, a rogue and vagabond, that to give him money is to "aid, abet, and comfort" him in his war upon society.

There is nothing of novelty in these sentences—but there is timeliness. The "poor we have always with us," in a sense not intended by the All-Merciful Author of that much-perverted declaration. Our streets are never free of the mendicant, clamorous or whining. But with the return of winter, there reappears on London pavements an army of petitioners some thousands strong—recalled from rural vagrancy or life in rookeries, by the cold which secludes the feeble and spurs the healthful, but opens the heart while it closes the door and buttons-up the coat—tempted out, in shivering raggedness, by the cold, as are the long-dormant insect tribes by the warmth of a spring day. The annual irruption is visible this year in full force. It has been met, however, with measures of prompt repression. Alderman Sir R. Carden has resumed his useful vocation, as commander-in-chief of the Mendicity Society's officers. He has taken before the City magistrates a boy and a girl, by whom, on two consecutive days, he was accosted, in busy City thoroughfares, for alms. The boy turned out to be an experienced gaol-bird, and a not ingenious storyteller; the girl proved to be the unhappy tool and victim of an abandoned woman. It was mentioned, in the conversation which these cases elicited, that but the other day a beggar-boy was detected in picking the pocket of a sailor in the very act of handing him a copper. In an amusing story progressing through one of the cheaper monthlies, the little hero is exhibited as the instrument of a begging-letter writer, whose prosperity exceeds that of a popular author—and the involuntary associate of the well-known character who sometime bore a painted board, depicting an experience not less imaginary than pathetic, which board was changed for another when it ceased to "draw the ha'pence"—letter-writer, tableaux-bearer, matchseller, and other professors of the woe-begone, habitually supping on turbot washed down with whisky. That all this goes on in many hundred homes within the "shadow of St. Paul's," the police-officer and the City missionary assure us. And the personal recollections of all who have ever indulged in giving pecuniary relief, must suggest some such employment of their shillings as the story-teller in "Home Thoughts" describes. For who that has been beguiled by the tale of destitution to bestow more than a piece of broken meat, has not heard a second time the same suppliant voice, till importunity bred distrust? Who that ever levied a contribution on his friends for a casual acquaintance, has not been mortified by the total disappearance of the recipient? And who that ever acted on the frequent invitation to "come home, and see for yourself, Sir," has not disappointed no less his suppliant than himself?

But what, it is said, are we to do? The question will, probably, never cease to be asked, in opposition to such remonstrances as these, till entreaty and remonstrance also cease. It is, we admit, hard, and almost impossible, simply and invariably to refuse. There is no act of self-restraint so difficult. The "Beggar's Petition" has been written with the pencil of a Raffiello, and set to the music of household strains. The wretchedest, foulest object by the wayside, will sometimes remind us of him who was taken from Dives' threshold to Abraham's bosom, of him who lay at the Beautiful Gate, of blind Bartimeus, of obolus-asking Belisarius. Christian story and Christian art seem specially to have consecrated houseless, foodless poverty. Our little ones ask with lisping tongue, and from untaught pity, for a penny to give to the "poor old man," or the "boy with no shoes," that comes to our door. (It is one of the saddest things we know,—this early perception of childhood that there are rich and poor.) Can we disregard all these pleadings—bind over the imagination to observe the laws of social economy, and teach sternness to our very babes?—And these feminine expostulations are enforced by facts such as our columns contain to-day, and that can often be paralleled—a babe left to die upon its mother's barren breast by the heartlessness of

poor-law officials; and a boy sent to prison for the theft of a loaf taken from very hunger—neither statesmen nor philanthropists having made special provision for that class of thieves whom, Solomon says, "men do not despise."

But whatever the pleadings of natural pity—whatever the force they borrow from legislative omissions or official misdemeanour—we must insist on the entire suspension of money gifts to casual applicants. Let there be personal investigation, wherever possible, into alleged distress; and let the inquiry be thorough. Let food be given,—for consumption on the spot,—wherever compassion prompts. Let those who do something for the alms they ask—the boy who sweeps the crossing or holds your horse—be kindly used. Let money-boxes be set up at the street corners, the contents being under trustworthy administration. And by all means let such movements as that in aid of which a Conference will be held in Birmingham on the 20th, be liberally encouraged. But let all good Christians and citizens deem it a duty of the season to abstain from "the vice of almsgiving."

#### A CASE OF WISDOM NOT IN THE WIG.

BARON ALDERSON delivered, the other day, to the grand jury at Liverpool, a charge in which the following passage occurs. Referring to some of the cases in the calendar, he said:—

"There is another class of cases, in which two or three persons are accused of a riot at Wigan, arising from that unhappy difference of opinion between the workmen and masters, which I am sorry to say has been so prevalent in this county of late—not indeed in this county alone, for this species of insanity is pervading almost all labourers in England. It has extended even to the agricultural districts, and with the agricultural labourer it has as little good sense and as little reason as it has in this case. The great want of knowledge on the part of the general body of the people of the real causes which govern the rate of wages in the world is the principal cause of this evil. If they did but know a little more of that political economy which many people talk of and so few understand, they would see that this is not the way in which the thing can be done, even if it were desirable to be accomplished. It is lamentable that it should be so; and one cannot help thinking that it is from the want of experience that this matter arises, for, from the shortness of life in the manufacturing districts, the people employed there are generally very young. . . . I don't see how the thing can be prevented, unless by a more general spread of sound education among the people; that is the only mode in which, to my mind, the remedy can be provided. If we could but do that—if we could teach them what was really for their good, they would cease to be the prey of empty-headed fellows, as they at present seem to be."

There have been many foolish words, and some unrighteous, spoken from the bench where the cap of wisdom is upborne by the sword of equity; but except in the case of some flagrantly partizan judge, we remember none worse than those. If the learned baron be not incorrectly reported, he regrets the wages movement out of which strikes have arisen—thinks a "difference of opinion" between masters and man a "species of insanity;"—doubts whether "the thing" (that is, higher payment for labour) be "desirable"—and deems the agricultural labourer even more unreasonable than the manufacturing operative in his desire for larger hire. We take this to be a regularly ascending series of nonsensical utterances. Than the wish to get a better price for one's commodities, nothing is more natural—nothing more approved by that "dismal science" of which Baron Alderson affects a monopoly;—and why should that which is instinctive and praiseworthy in the seller of goods, be stigmatised as "insanity" in the seller of labour? So far from an augmentation of wages being undesirable, it is the surest and most obvious step to social advancement; besides being the least fallible sign of national prosperity. And who has not remarked with equal surprise and pity, the stolid contentment of the peasant with less than the wages of the worst-paid artisan?—We take leave to tell his lordship that in thus contradicting all consentient opinion—for there was an universal chorus of gratulation nine months ago over rising wages—he offends the common sense of his countrymen, and brings his office into disrepute with the class whom he thus wildly censures.

But though the baron is quite alone in deeming the "higgling of the [labour] market" a "species of insanity,"—he has very good company in the fallacy which follows the absurdity. Attributing to want of knowledge the workmen's madness for gain, the provision of "education" is to his mind the only remedy. The nonsense is this



time respectable, but nonsense nevertheless. There is no adaptation of means to ends in putting knowledge into men's heads when their pockets—or mayhap their stomachs—are in a state of collapse. Give them more to do, that they may have more to eat and spend. In the absence of that, knowledge will but sharpen the sense of endurance, and prompt to speculative methods of redress. We have known men filled with knowledge to their fingers' ends—men whom literary occupation has since made affluent—who have walked about for weeks, unable to find employment for the craft to which they were bred, and in which they did not fear fair competition, but saw ignorant men often preferred before them. It is not the uneducated members of the working-class who head strikes and organize vast industrial movements. We suspect that the annals of strikes would show their increased frequency and resolution with the spread of education.

The subject is inviting, but we cannot pursue it. Did our precious space permit, we would hunt this plausible fallacy through the long and able article into which the *Times* has drawn it out. As it is, we will answer the eloquent sophist with some words of his own on another subject—the horrible crime of child poisoning:—

"For our own part, we cannot help fearing that, if Nature proves insufficient to keep the mother from murdering her child, education can do little more. This is not an offence against knowledge, but against instinct, and the first laws of our physical and moral being. 'Can a mother forget her sucking child?' Can she learn more than Nature teaches her? Can she acquire at school a feeling which maternity has failed to generate. Much may be done indeed by the general improvement of the working-classes. . . . But then more must be done than is now done to cement the different orders of society and introduce them one to another. The great work of this day is to fill up, if it may be, that now almost impassable gulf that yawns between the employers and the employed, nowhere so much as in our great manufacturing cities. . . . Uncared-for, unvisited, unsought, and unknown; buried in sensuality and hardened by want; dark and moody, aimless and miserable, the wretched parent conceives a morbid longing for some indulgences beyond her means, and, having no pure and kindly influences to correct the horrid craving, lets it take its course, and sinks to a depth below humanity and brute nature itself."

#### HENRY VINCENT IN THE NORTH.

MR. VINCENT has given his lectures on the "Commonwealth" to very large audiences at Paisley and Hawick, and has succeeded in rousing considerable attention to the principles involved in the commonwealth conflict. He has also lectured to very crowded audiences on "Our Social Progress," and on "The Elevation of the People," at Falkirk, under the patronage of the provost and magistrates, and at Edinburgh, and South Shields. He is now concluding the Commonwealth lectures at Middlesbrough and Hartlepool; the town halls of both places being densely crowded with all classes of the inhabitants—the mayor of each borough presiding, and at Hartlepool, two of the Episcopal clergy have been in attendance. In the absence of all party political excitement, there is an increasing desire manifested by all classes, to attend lectures which bear upon the great questions which must continue to agitate both Church and State. Mr. Vincent is about to give a series of lectures on the Protestant Reformation in England.

From an advertisement elsewhere, it will be seen that this popular lecturer is to deliver two lectures next week, in aid of the funds of the South Islington British Schools, at Denmark-terrace. Mr. Alderman Challis, M.P., will preside over the first.

#### THE WEST INDIAN COLONIES.

Under this head we propose in future to give a condensed summary of the intelligence we receive from correspondents (missionaries and others), as well as that which we meet with in the West Indian papers. A great experiment in education, agriculture, and Government, is carrying on in these colonies, and it is right that the attention of our readers should frequently be called to it.

It should be remembered that, strictly speaking, there is no Established or preferent Churches in these colonies; all who like to apply to the Colonial Legislatures for them, may receive portions of the annual grants made by the Assemblies for the purpose of promoting religious instruction and worship. The Episcopalians, the Methodists, the Presbyterians, the Romanists, the Lutherans, and the Jews, are in the habit of so applying, and obtaining such sums from the public funds. Churches are built, schools erected, and ministers and teachers in part supported out of these funds; but there are no tithes on the land, nor what is called exclusively Church-property. Before any regular Episcopalian Churches were formed, or bishops appointed, the Lutherans, Independents, Baptists, Moravians, and Methodists, had taught the

people, and founded Churches, with the aid of Christian societies in England, Scotland, and Holland. The Independents, Baptists, and, we believe, the Moravians (for the most part), depend altogether for support on voluntary contributions, and we do not believe their ministers and teachers are worse supported, or their churches and schools less flourishing, than those which receive aid from the State.

A large number—perhaps scarcely less than fifty or sixty thousand of the most industrious, intelligent, and pious negroes, formerly slaves—have purchased lands, erected houses, founded schools, and erected chapels, and upon their well-doing the success of the great experiment of Emancipation greatly depends. If they fail to support themselves by industry, and to maintain the institutions they have established, there will be little hope for the African race, or indeed for the European colonists connected with them. It is to this free and Christian race, then, and for them, and those interested in their improvement, that we propose to write; and we shall be glad to receive hints and communications from them and their friends in Europe, as well as in the colonies, from time to time, to which our best attention will be given.

It is the fashion to decry these free settlers, and to represent them as rapidly degenerating, because they do not work on the estates with the same regularity as heretofore. The fact is, they have been building houses, draining and planting lands, making roads, and laying the foundations of prosperity for their families. The great thing would be to encourage them to plant cotton and grow sugar canes, as well as ground provisions, corn, and plantains, and to apply the profits to the education of their children. A cotton-gin and sugar manufactory, working to hire, or being supplied with cotton and cane from the Creole freeholders and farmers near to every missionary station, would be one of the most effectual methods of improving the condition and prospects of these settlers. We are pleased to notice the delivery of courses of public lectures by Messrs. Wallbridge and Kettly, at Demerara; and that the Jubilee meetings of the Bible Society, both in Jamaica and Demerara, have been well attended, and that the Governor and Chief Justice of Demerara, and ministers of religion of all denominations, have taken part in them. At Kingston, too, there has been a very large meeting to support a city mission, which was attended by the mayor and chief magistrate of that city and several extensive merchants, as well as ministers of religion.

From the *Royal Gazette* of Demerara, it appears "that sugar making goes on successfully in that colony, the cane yielding better, and of a better quality. The young canes continue promising for the next year. Trade is improving in every branch, and sickness gradually disappearing."

The same paper, the organ of the Government, laments the apathy of the landowners in the matter of drainage and the manufacture of sugar, in the following terms: "We are for the most part following the processes of a century past. Our ancestors did so and so, and we, the blind, are blindly led by them." "The wonderful effects of efficient tillage and manuring in increasing both the quantity and the quality of the crops at home, are pretty generally known." "The open system of drainage (adopted here) precludes the plough, or a rotatory system of shovels worked by cattle labour for the trituration of the ground. Again, on another point, it must be perfectly evident, we are miserably behind, and that is in the process of manufacture. Practical men—men with large capital involved in the colony—must see the necessity for renewed activity, for more scientific management, for the application in every particular of those means which make the new rivals in trade successful. Districts may, by combination, be better drained, fields must be more thoroughly pulverized, and by some means or other their production doubled or trebled, as has in so many instances been done in the case of the corn crops of the mother country; the manufacture must be no longer left to the rule of thumb, processes of our ancestors. We have no doubt that with a little attention, we could get our raw material into the saccharine condition of that of Barbadoes, where, according to authority, they cannot make bad sugar if they tried."

In the Falmouth (Jamaica) Paper, we find an interesting paragraph relative to the manufacture of cigars. "We have received from the cigar manufactory of Aaron Isaacs, Esq., of Montego Bay, a box of cigars manufactured at that gentleman's establishment. The tobacco from which the cigars are made, is the growth and produce of Old Hope Pen, Westmoreland. The sample bids fair to rival many of the specimens of Havannah cigars that we have seen imported from Cuba. If other gentlemen would but use their best endeavours to promote the cultivation of 'the weed,' we have not the least doubt that Jamaica

would number among the articles of export that of tobacco; and that we should, at no distant period, become a powerful rival of the neighbouring island of Cuba in the manufacture of cigars."

The *Morning Journal* gives a reply of the late Governor, Sir Charles Gray, to an address from the inhabitants of Port Royal, which thus concludes:—

"It is certainly the most agreeable course of government to meet with general support and assistance; but, when perverse and contradictory counsels prevail, there is a satisfaction also to be derived from a perception of that force in the moral law of the world, which makes it possible that the tendency to mischief should be checked, and that the 'civium ardor prava jubentium' should be successfully resisted. My conviction is that, if I had procured the acquiescence of the Home Government on the assertion of a right on the part of a local Legislature to disregard its public promises and obligations, Jamaica would have been ruined; and that, by obtaining the offer of the parent State to rectify your finances, on condition of your complying, in matters of public faith, with the rules of the English Constitution, the means of extrication from your difficulties, and of future prosperity, are afforded to you."

"If this opportunity were to be rejected, all would have been done that could be done by yourselves to effect your own ruin. But, God is merciful; and my earnest prayer is, that he will not bring you into trials for which you are ill prepared, but will extend to you that mercy which often, in its blessings and its bounties, goes far beyond the measure of justice, though it is never incompatible nor inconsistent with its rules."

"My anxious wish and recommendation to you all is, that with willing readiness and alacrity you should avail yourselves of the good and favourable intentions towards this colony, which have been manifested and declared by Her Majesty's Ministers in Parliament, and which my successor, with whom you cannot have any cause nor pretence for dissension, has come here to carry into effect."

In Surinam, a Dutch colony, labourers have been imported from China, with a view, as it is understood, to a speedy movement to free the slaves; and Africans and Portuguese, from Madeira, have been introduced in the French island of Martinique. Three steam vessels, for local purposes, have been introduced in the French islands.

#### WEDNESDAY EVENING CONCERTS.

The directors of these popular entertainments are pursuing a judicious course in devoting the first part of their weekly concert to a higher description of music and to concerted pieces. Last Wednesday, an unusually large audience filled Exeter Hall to enjoy a "night with Mendelssohn." The selection was varied and interesting, exhibiting the characteristic excellences of the great composer. It was evident that the audience shared the growing conviction of the unequalled power of expression in Mendelssohn's music. The solo parts were taken by Miss F. Ternan, Miss Poole, the Misses Brougham, Mr. Perren and Mr. Weiss, and comprised the popular duet "I would that my love," and a fine four-part song, "How lovely thy lay." The instrumental performance comprised an overture, and the Italian symphony. The admirable performance of the latter was fully appreciated. Mdlle. Clauss played the concerto in G minor with wonderful expression. It was, according to the announcement, her last performance in England, previous to her departure for St. Petersburg. A more brilliant "farewell" could not have been desired by her best wishers. The second part comprised miscellaneous pieces, which we have not space to characterise. This evening's programme contains selections from William Tell and from the productions of Mr. Benedict, the able conductor of these concerts.

In the United States there is not the same idea of sacredness attached to places of worship as in this country, and thus these edifices serve a more general and useful purpose there than here. Mr. Bunn, in his "Old England and New England" says: "In several localities, the institutions are not wealthy enough to erect a hall of their own, and in that case, churches are their general resort. . . . The repugnance which we felt, and the objections we made, were over-ruled on being informed that, apart from the performance of divine service, the churches were used for all public occasions—town's meetings, concerts, orations, political *r  unions*, and the like, being invariably held in them; and it did not, therefore, become us to object to follow in the path where that ablest of essayists and lecturers, Edwipple, and many of his eminent countrymen, had led the way."

In some parts of Lower Austria and Styria, and especially in the hilly region towards Hungary (says *Blackwood's Magazine*), there prevails among the peasantry an extraordinary custom of eating arsenic. It is eaten professedly for one or both of two purposes: First—That the eater may thereby acquire freshness of complexion and plumpness of figure. Second—That the wind may be improved, so that long and steep heights may be climbed without difficulty of breathing. By the middle-aged and the old it is esteemed for this influence, and both results are described as following almost invariably from the use of arsenic. To improve their appearance, young peasants of both sexes have recourse to it. And it is very remarkable to see how wonderfully well they attain their object; for these young poison-eaters are generally remarkable for blooming complexions, and a full, rounded, healthy appearance. No symptoms of illness or of chronic poisoning are observable, when the dose is carefully adapted to the constitution and habit of body of the person using it. But if from any cause the arsenic be left off for a time, symptoms of disease occur which resemble those of slight arsenical poisoning. From these symptoms there is only one speedy mode of relief—an immediate return to arsenic-eating.



## Court, Personal, and Political News.

The Queen has contributed 100*l.* to the building of the new church for the accommodation of the British residents in Paris.

The Queen's letter for the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel appeared in Monday's papers. It is dated Oct. 14.

The Duchess of Brabant continued a guest at Osborne House until Monday, when she was fetched away by the Duke, and returned with him to Belgium via Dover. Amongst the visitors have been the Duchess of Kent, Lord John Russell, and Viscount Hardinge.

The late Lord Saltoun's personal property in England has been sworn to as under 10,000*l.*

Mr. George Atkinson, of the Northern circuit, has been made a sergeant-at-law.

Baron Marochetti's statue of Richard Cœur de Lion is about to be erected in Palace-yard, Westminster.

No fewer than nine judges have taken their seats on the Scottish Bench since the beginning of 1850.—*Scotsman.*

After this day (the 14th inst.), the Rotterdam mails will be sent *via* Belgium, and the postage on letters reduced to 8*d.* the half-ounce.

There seems no doubt now but that Mr. John O'Connell will be returned for Clonmel. Mr. Charles Bianconi has refused to allow his son to oppose "the son of O'Connell."

Mr. Sichel, of Manchester, who was badly treated by the Austrian military authorities on the frontiers of Lombardy, has been appointed Austrian Consul, at Manchester, as an amende honourable.

The new judge in the room of Lord Fullerton is Mr. Hercules Robertson, Sheriff-Depute of Renfrewshire. He takes his seat on the Bench as Lord Benholme.

Lord Palmerston has complied with a memorial of the inhabitants of Newcastle, praying for an "inquiry into the cause of the late mortality of that town;" "a commission will be appointed to make the inquiry prayed for."

Dr. Merle d'Aubigné delivered an address on the opening of the College of the General Assembly at Belfast, on the 5th instant. A large sum was collected; and among the collectors were Lord Roden, Lord Massareene, General Thomas, and Mr. Sherman Crawford.

The electors and non-electors of Peterborough have presented testimonials to Mr. Whalley, the late member. The testimonial of the electors consists of a centre-piece and candelabrum worth 200 guineas; that of the non-electors of a salver worth fifty guineas. They were publicly presented on Tuesday.

Mrs. Amelia Opie, widow of the late Mr. Opie, R.A., and author of several works of fiction much admired for their truthful simplicity, died last week, at her residence in Norwich, at the advanced age of eighty-eight. She had been an exemplary member of the Society of Friends for the last twenty-five years, and was much respected by a very large circle. She was a daughter of the late Dr. Alderson, of Norwich, and a sister of Mr. Baron Alderson.

The son of the Emperor of Hayti has recently arrived in England from France, having travelled under the name of M. Dalval. He is described as a most intelligent and gentlemanlike person, and has been sojourning for a short time at Torquay. His object in visiting this country is said to be to complete his education, for which purpose he will shortly proceed to Dawlish, and place himself under a clergyman of that place.

The first sitting of the open Court of the Commissioners of Customs was held on Friday, at the Custom House; Sir Thomas Fremantle presiding. The Court will sit on Tuesdays and Fridays, and it will investigate complaints and disputes between merchants and others and Custom House officers. An inquiry can be had by transmitting a letter to the commissioners or their secretary, containing the substance of the complaint and applying for an inquiry. Similar courts will be held at the outposts.

The *Examiner* thus notices a circumstance which was reported in our columns some weeks since: One of the most distinguished and respected of our actresses, who has for years maintained her family by her exertions, was the other day subjected to the distress of appearing, through her husband, in the Insolvent Debtors' Court. She had been afflicted by a painful disease, in spite of which, while strength remained, she laboured actively in her profession, but was compelled at last to desist. It appears that Her Majesty had not been content with simply subscribing towards the support required by Mrs. Warner's family, now that its prop fails, but that, having learnt the importance of carriage exercise to the patient, with a woman's delicacy at once found the kindest way to render service, by herself hiring a carriage, which she had caused, and causes still, to be placed daily at Mrs. Warner's disposal.

The graduates of the Universities of Scotland are putting in their claim to Parliamentary representation. On Monday last week, a meeting was held in Glasgow; Mr. R. Baird in the chair. The Rev. Dr. Robson said he had documentary evidence to show that there are 2,505 gentlemen who have graduated at the University of Glasgow alone; while Trinity College, Dublin, has two members, with a constituency only numbering 1,780. The true theory of representation is to reflect the mind of the country; and could that object be secured better than by enfranchising the graduates of the Scottish Universities? He moved, "That the position of the graduates of Scotch Universities has long been highly anomalous, and as viewed in connexion with the circumstances of the

present times, demands an immediate change." Dr. A. D. Anderson said he had the authority of the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons to attend and support the movement; and he moved a resolution accordingly. All the resolutions were carried; and the meeting resolved itself into an association to be called the "Glasgow Association of Scottish Graduates."

## DEPUTATIONS TO GOVERNMENT.

## THE RIGHT OF EXPOSING PLACARDS.

On Tuesday, the 6th inst., a deputation from the committee of the Society for Irish Church Missions to the Roman Catholics, waited upon Viscount Palmerston, for the purpose of presenting a memorial, praying his lordship to institute an inquiry into the circumstances which have taken place in Dublin in reference to the decision of Mr. Hugh O'Callaghan, the police magistrate, in the case of William Smith; and also into the instructions given by Colonel Browne to the police inspectors in the matter of the placard exhibited in front of the society's office in Rutland-square. Viscount Lifford, one of the deputation, said that if English magistrates were to act on the same principles, there would be very great disturbances and complaints, because very often placards and papers are circulated respecting Church rates and other matters, which are a great deal more offensive than any of these:—

The Rev. R. Bickersteth: I think we have distributed about 44,000 of these handbills monthly for two or three years past, and this is the very first instance in which any complaint has arisen in consequence of our so doing. The man simply offered the handbill to the lady as she was passing by. He was on the side next her. And it was not until five minutes afterwards that Mr. O'Brennan ran after him.

The Hon. A. Kinnaird: It is what happens every day in London as we are walking along the streets.

Viscount Lifford: You never can tell what is put into your hands until afterwards.

Viscount Palmerston: Yes, but in London the handbills offer you cheap goods, instead of a creed.

The Hon. A. Kinnaird: But the principle brought forward by Lord Lifford, as to the Church-rate, is perfectly analogous.—Lord Palmerston concurred.

The Rev. R. Bickersteth: I should mention also, that the Roman Catholics are in the habit of doing the same thing in Dublin, and Protestants make no complaint.

Viscount Palmerston: I think it is absurd to say that a man distributing things of that sort is committing or likely to commit a breach of the peace. The breach of the peace is committed by those who may be made angry by it, and who cannot keep their temper.

Viscount Lifford: Without driving things to extremity it would be a great thing to have such an expression of opinion as would deter magistrates from taking such an arbitrary line as we are deterred from taking in England. I think it would be a great thing to have something of that sort to give security to the Protestants.

The Rev. W. Marrable: Generally the placards are similar to the handbills, announcing sermons to be preached, and asking a few questions from the Douay version of the Scriptures.

Viscount Lifford: I think it was an error in judgment of Mr. O'Brennan to suppose that such measures can be taken because bills are offensive to him. We all see bills that are offensive to us; such, for instance, as those announcing Socialist meetings and sermons.—Viscount Palmerston: Yes.

The Hon. A. Kinnaird: But the most important fact is that there has never been the slightest disturbance in Dublin in consequence of these placards.

The Rev. R. Bickersteth: Similar placards have been affixed to the walls for three years past. They never have led to large assemblies of persons, there never has been the slightest tumult or breach of the peace in any way whatever. At the same time we think the circulation of these handbills and placards has been a most important instrumentality in leading to the very great success which the society has met with among the Roman Catholics in Ireland.

The Rev. W. Marrable: And the late Government sanctioned the exhibition of them.

Viscount Palmerston (to Mr. Bickersteth): In what way? These things may not convince people much by reading them; but I suppose they are calculated to draw attention.

The Rev. R. Bickersteth: People passing along the street cannot help observing them, and the result is, that they are led to inquire, and are induced to come to the controversial classes (of which we have six or seven in Dublin), which are encouraged by the Archbishop of Dublin, and in which discussions are carried on in a friendly spirit between Protestants and Romanists.

His lordship promised to inquire further into the matter.

## SANITARY MATTERS.

A deputation from the parish of St. Mary, Lambeth, introduced by the borough members, Mr. Williams and Mr. Wilkinson, waited on Lord Palmerston on Wednesday, to call his attention to the defective drainage of the parish, and to pray that the ratepayers might be represented in the Sewers Commission. The report in the papers states that Lord Palmerston said he would introduce the representative system.

On the same day, the noble lord received deputations from the Metropolitan Commission of Sewers; from rate-payers respecting the interments in Hackney Churchyard; from the Board of Guardians of the parish of Camberwell; and, lastly, the Bishop of London and Archdeacon Sinclair.

On Friday, Sir W. Molesworth received a deputation from the parish of St. James, Westminster, for the purpose of pointing out to him the inefficiency of the Nuisances Removal and Diseases Prevention Act of 1848, and the Metropolitan Building Act, and to request that they might be revised. Mr. Nelson fully tated the case of the parish; and Sir John Shelley and Sir de Lacy Evans asked for municipal institutions in the name of their constituents. In reply, Sir William Molesworth said, that if he understood rightly, the object of the deputation was to impress on the members of the Government the necessity of bringing in measures to facilitate the removal of nuisances—to remove

slaughter-houses, to prevent various noxious trades from being carried on, to amend the law which prohibits underground dwellings, and a general revision of the Building Act—

He could only say, that those were matters which he acknowledged to be of the greatest possible importance which are now engaging the attention of Her Majesty's Government, and especially of the Home-office and the Board of Health. He could not state distinctly what measures might be brought forward. He could not be expected to express his opinion at this moment with regard to the corporate inquiry. No doubt, it must lead to a very great change in the government of the city of London. It was most important to consider whether municipal institutions should be extended over every portion of the metropolis; and, without expressing any distinct opinion on the part of the Government, he should say individually, so far as he was concerned, that he thought corporate government should be given. That was his own individual opinion. The subject, as might be supposed, had not yet been brought under the consideration of the Government; but the whole question of municipal institutions would be carefully considered.

On Saturday, Colonel Sibthorp had an interview with Lord Palmerston.

## THE CITY CORPORATION.

The Commissioners resumed their inquiry on Friday, at the official residence of the Prime Minister in Downing-street; Mr. Labouchere in the chair. The evidence was not very material. The Rector of Lambeth said that the poor of the parish between Lambeth Palace and Vauxhall-bridge were frequently flooded by the overflow of the tide, which caused them great misery. Those floods never took place till after the building of the new London-bridge, the large arches of which permitted a greater influx of water than previously. The Corporation ought to have looked to this matter when they were building the bridge. The other witnesses were Mr. Billett, churchwarden of St. Pancras; Mr. Pritchard, high bailiff of Southwark; and Mr. J. C. Bennett, solicitor and election agent. The latter, who was agent for Mr. Scott, at the last election for Chamberlain, said the mode of conducting the elections of Common Hall is extremely vicious and corrupt. On that occasion, 362 false votes were polled—226 for Sir John Key and 136 for Mr. Scott. Mr. J. T. Norris, a member of the Common Council, said he would divide the City into twelve equal districts; 100 common councilmen would be quite enough; he would have the aldermen who passed the chair elected for life and magistrates. The Corporation had acted with considerable prudence in the selection of the higher officers. They had appointed men of integrity and capacity, and the high salaries given to those persons had attracted able men to them. There were too many officers and clerks, however, to do the duty.—The Commission then adjourned *sine die*. It may be that one or two sittings will take place before Christmas, but this is very uncertain.

The Court of Common Council met on Thursday; and the sitting was characterised by another squabble arising out of the evidence given before the Royal Commission. The Freedom Committee presented a report, recommending the repeal of the act prohibiting the employment of non-freemen; but, exceeding their instructions, they added a paragraph recommending the repeal of another act prohibiting non-freemen from trading in the City. For this they were censured. In the course of a speech on the subject, Mr. H. L. Taylor charged witnesses before the Commission with descending to gross and deliberate falsehood. Mr. Elliott asked whether his evidence was meant? Mr. Taylor replied, that he did not know his friend Elliott was in the court, and that he had not him in his thought. This did not satisfy Mr. Elliott; but the Court seemed to think he ought to be satisfied. Then Mr. Bennoch observed, that Mr. Taylor looked at him—was he included in the accusation; a question put amid laughter and confusion, and recommendations to Mr. Taylor not to answer. The Lord Mayor thought the question ought to be answered. Mr. Taylor only said that what he had stated he could prove. The scene ended by a vote, that only the first paragraph of the report should be received.

Mr. Francis Bennoch, goaded by the continued attacks of the Court of Common Council, has resigned his office as deputy for the Ward of Cripplegate Within. He says that the honour of being a member of that "venerable and fat-witted body" is not worth the annoyance. He considers their conduct as a consequence of his evidence before the Royal Commission.

Sir Peter Laurie has addressed a letter to the *Times*, upon the evidence already received before the City Commission, chiefly to show that the City magistracy is not less efficient, while it is more independent of Government, than the Metropolitan stipendiaries; and to answer at the same time the inference, that the present members of the Corporation are of moderate commercial standing, and greatly inferior to those of former days, drawn from the statement of three directors of the Bank of England, that the "higher class of merchants" decline corporate office. As a proof that the efficiency of the aldermen is equal to that of the stipendiaries, he puts in a table of commitments and their results, which he considers favourable to his brethren. His reply to the Bank directors is a "tu quoque."

"I am prepared," he writes, "to name two bankrupt governors of that establishment for every bankrupt Lord Mayor they can quote, and two bankrupt directors for every bankrupt alderman during the last twenty years. The roll of aldermen for the last fifty years will show that, in point of wealth and commercial standing, the court of the present day need not fear comparison with those of former days. If by the term 'merchant' is meant men like Baring, Hutt, or some other of the ver-



few remaining merchant-princes of former days, then there have not been ten 'merchants' in the Corporation for the last hundred years. Then, as now, they were, or became bankers, wholesale dealers, exporters and importers, brokers, professional men, manufacturers, and traders, who, having made their fortunes, had both time and inclination for public business; and I take leave to say, advisedly, that an examination of the present list of Aldermen and Common Council will show as large an amount of wealth and commercial importance as at any period during the last half century. Formerly the 'merchant' resided in the City; but it is not so now. His existence is almost unknown except to the tax-gatherer. Mr. Hubbard 'has never resided in the City.' Mr. Thomson Hankey 'has rooms in the City, where he occasionally sleeps.' Mr. W. Cotton 'has had a counting-house in the City.' Having referred to 'the calendar of prisoners between January and October last, I find that of the prisoners committed for trial at the Central Criminal Court by Mr. Cotton, as an Essex magistrate, the very unusual proportion of more than forty per cent. was acquitted. If the aldermen of London discharged their duties after this fashion, I should readily admit the necessity of a remedy.'

Sir Peter tells an anecdote to show that the stipendiary magistrates are not independent. Some years ago a member of Parliament was fined by a stipendiary magistrate for riding furiously in Rottenrow; the member went straight to the Home Secretary, and the magistrate was ordered to return the fine. "Now, if such an order had been sent to any City magistrate, I feel confident that it would have been read in the House of Commons the same evening, and the Secretary of State called upon for his answer."

#### WORK AND WAGES IN THE NORTH.

The number of applicants for employment at the various mills in Preston has amounted, during the week, to about 200, including mechanics and others who have no connexion with the present agitation. From this, it may be concluded that there is little prospect of a speedy resumption of work. There has been a large increase in the number of hands receiving relief from the various committees, the weavers alone exceeding the number of the previous week by 466 persons. Their funds, however, have not only enabled them to meet this large demand, but the committee have a balance in hand of 156l. 5s. 7d., after contributing 40l. to necessitous cases, in addition to continuing their usual weekly allowance of 4s. per head to the hands in the union. The increase in the number of spinners is 144; their committee have a balance in hand of 57l. 7s. 9d., after investing 50l. in their "local fund." The committee have assisted several families to remove to other localities. It appears from the returns, that the total expenditure in relief since the commencement of the strike amounted last week to the large sum of 26,434l. 3s. 4d. On Saturday afternoon, there was a vast assemblage of the unemployed in the Orchard, where they remained, notwithstanding the intense cold, attentively listening to the several speakers for about two hours.—Mr. Cowell entertained them for the greater part of that time with a shrewd and spirited criticism on a *Times* article. In the course of this speech, he said:—

I ask any reasonable man, pointing to all the documents—to all the placards we have published to the world—I ask whether there has been anything like invective or declamation on our part? But, on the other hand, I ask you to look at the placards which have been issued by our opponents, and I say that you cannot read over one of them without finding invective and declamatory language. (Hear, hear.) You find them attempting to malign, to blast the characters of those who are your leaders. They are attempting, and they have attempted from the first, to make the world believe that we are an irresponsible body—that we have no connexion anywhere. You find nothing of this kind in our placards. Then I say the writer in the *Times* might well say, there is something like invective and declamatory language, but it is not on our part, it is on the other side of the question. Our opponents can't write an article or issue a placard without maligning, to the utmost of their power, all who take an active part in this movement. Look, for instance, at the precious document issued this week, headed, "Cowell and his Slaves," in which the writer says, that at the close of this agitation my occupation will be gone. I don't wish to live upon the charity of any man or of any class of men. There is a gentleman in Preston who says that when this affair is over I shall have employment at his works, if I choose to go there. Yet this writer says, my occupation is gone—that I can be employed nowhere but at the Padham co-operative mill. I hope, however, the day is not far distant when we shall see the working-classes of Preston have a mill of their own, where they may work for themselves instead of for things called masters, and where they will not be "locked out." (Cheers.) If you had only that moral confidence in each other which is so essential to your well being, you may depend upon it that by the leverage of co-operation you could elevate your own class to such a position as it has never yet enjoyed. (Cheers.)

On Monday, it was reported by the committee, that though this is what is termed the "little week," the amount placed at the disposal of the weavers' committee is 2,250l. This would enable them to increase their payments from 4s. to 5s. per head, but in anticipation of Christmas week, it has been deemed expedient to adhere to the former sum. The fund reserved for Christmas week already amounted to 1,000l., Blackburn alone having 247l. in hand.

The Burnley mills having been re-opened with success for four days in the week, the Bacup manufacturers opened theirs on Monday, likewise at old prices, but only for three days in the week. At first the workmen did not return freely, but more have since returned, and it is expected that labour generally will be recruited. At Bury, the operatives do not seem disposed to go in, as they are supported by the unemployed in that town engaged in other employment.

The workmen at the Ebbw Vale works of the British Iron Company have turned out, because an advance of ten per cent. made to the colliers and miners was not extended to the mechanics and labourers. The company were determined to concede nothing.

"The miners under the employ" of Messrs. Swire and Lees, Dukinfield—or rather a great part of them—sent a letter to their employers asking them to make some of their fellow-miners contribute to the support of the Colliers' Union, and hinting at a strike if this were not done. Messrs. Swire and Lees declined to do an act "unjust and illegal," and cited remarks by the late Lord Chief Justice Tindal on the right of the working man to do what he pleases with his earnings, untrammelled by the dictation of his fellows.

Messrs. Du Fay and Co., of Manchester, in their trade report estimate that in the districts where short-time is in operation, or the hands are out, there is a reduction of 357,000 pieces of 37½ yards in the ordinary weekly production of cotton goods; this and the decrease in the export of yarns will cause a diminution in the consumption of cotton of 10,000 bags weekly.

It is a fact cheerfully indicative of the still general prosperity that the deposits in the Leeds Savings' bank during the present year show an increase of 19,135l.; the number of depositors has increased by 725.

#### Miscellaneous News.

The extensive estates of Glink and Cregga, in the county of Galway, containing 7,500 statute acres, were disposed of on Thursday by private contract under the Encumbered Estates Commission, for the sum of 55,000l.

The Electric Telegraph is now extended to Osborne, the marine residence of Her Majesty in the Isle of Wight, and telegraphic messages to and from London and Osborne are transmitted whenever necessary.

On Thursday, the Earl of Derby, Lord Stanley, and a number of gentlemen from the neighbourhood, attended at the inauguration of a working-man's library at Prescott, near Liverpool. A fund has been raised large enough to purchase about 2,000 volumes, which are to be lent to subscribers of 5s. per annum.

On Saturday and on Friday, no fewer than 556 vessels of all classes were entered inwards at the Custom House. Of this immense fleet, 336 were coal-laden from the various ports in the north of England. It is estimated that the aggregate quantity of coals brought by these ships exceeds 67,000 tons.

A meeting was held in the lodge of the Provost of Eton last week (the Bishop of Oxford in the chair) for the purpose of providing means for the enlargement and completion of the Clewer House of Mercy. This is a religious sisterhood, established for the purpose of receiving fallen women. The speakers advocated the institution of religious sisterhoods, on principles in strict accordance with those of the Church of England. Nearly 1,000l. was subscribed at the meeting: the sum required is 9,000l.

Mr. John Russell Smith, the publisher of Sobosquare, complains to the *Times* of a demand by the British Museum. Some copies of a costly Paris work on architecture have been sent to him for sale; and the Paris publisher inserted Mr. Smith's name on the titlepage as the London agent; whereupon Mr. Panizzi claims a copy for the Museum Library. Mr. Smith has been obliged to defer the sale of the work, in order to have new titlepages printed, omitting his name, that he may not expose himself to a demand for five free copies under the Copyright Act. He thinks Mr. Panizzi's claim as novel as it is oppressive in such a case.

Such is the extraordinary demand for whisky in Galway that its two extensive distilleries cannot furnish the requisite supplies. In Cork, the price of whisky has been reduced 3d. per gallon. Drunkenness, nevertheless, is not declining in the "beautiful city;" on the contrary, the terrible vice is becoming daily more wide-spread, and all the precepts of Father Mathew appear to have been utterly forgotten by his fellow-townsmen. The *Cork Southern Reporter* says: "That the temperance movement has turned out a complete failure in Ireland is a statement which no man possessed of the smallest candour and observation will deny. The revenue returns and the enormous trade now being done by the brewers and distillers leave no doubt on this head."

Mr. Hodgson, the auctioneer of Fleet-street, has effected a sale of literary property, comprising nearly half a million of volumes, and the copyrights and stereotype plates of numerous illustrated and other popular works. Knight's Pictorial Museum of Animated Nature, 2 vols. folio, 4,000 parts and 11,000 numbers, with copyright and stereotype plates, sold for 600l. The pictorial Gallery of Arts, also Knight's, 2 vols. folio, stock, copyright, and plates, brought 850l. The stock, copyright, and plates of Kito's Pictorial Sunday Book were knocked down at 560l.; ditto of Pictorial Half Hours, 4 vols. 105l. The stereotype plates of Mr. Knight's Shakspeare sold for 320l., and those of South's Household Surgery for 210l. The copyright and plates of some of the most popular of Knight's shilling volumes realised a good market price.

During the past week, especially on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, there were serious fogs at Manchester. People lost their way; children were met in the streets weeping and in great distress—though some of them were not many yards from their own doors. "Unprotected females" were in some cases almost frantic. "Patent safety cabs" were no longer safe even for their drivers, who had to dismount from their seats behind, and take a seat on the horse's back, or lead him by the bridle. Omnibuses travel-

ling in strings, on the principle of "follow my leader," were frequently brought to a sudden halt on finding that the foremost had run their horses up against a church or some other public building, or had got upon a footpath. At least three people lost their lives by walking into canals. Several had a dangerous dipping.

On Thursday, the grand jury at the Liverpool assizes made a presentment to Baron Alderson, in which they record their unanimous opinion that the interference of the Legislature is imperatively called for to put a stop to the present system of money payments by burial societies. From the cases brought before them at the present assizes, as well as from past experience, the grand jury have no doubt that the system operates as a direct incentive to murder, and that "many of their fellow-beings are year after year hurried into eternity by those most closely united to them by the ties of nature and of blood, if not of affection, for the sake of a few pounds to which, by the rules of the societies, as at present constituted, the survivors are entitled."—The grand jury believe that a remedy for this and many other evils is to be found in State education of the people.

Shortly after the Anti-Corn-law League was reconstructed, on the advent of the Derby-Disraeli Cabinet to power, a meeting was held at Newall's-buildings, Manchester, on the 10th August, 1852, at which it was resolved to offer the sum of 250l. for the best essay, "showing the results of the repeal of the Corn-laws and the free-trade policy, upon the moral, the social, the commercial, and the political interests of the United Kingdom." On Monday week, the committee ascertained that the essay to which the first prize had been adjudged was the work of the Rev. Henry Dunkley, M.A., Baptist minister, Salford, the same gentleman who won the first prize of 100l. (for which there were 150 competitors), offered by the Religious Tract Society in 1850, for an essay on "The Social and Moral Condition of the Working Classes." The gentleman to whom the second prize has been awarded, is Mr. Jas. Grant, of Plowden-buildings, Temple, London. There were thirty-one essays sent in. The committee of adjudicators included Messrs. R. Cobden, M.P., John Bright, M.P., Henry Ashworth, Thomas Thomasson, Thomas Bazley, George Wilson, William Rawson, Joseph Simpson, Mark Phillips, A. W. Paulton, A. Ireland, Alderman Watkin, and S. P. Robinson, honorary secretary.

The annual Christmas show in Baker-street, of fat cattle, sheep, and pigs, took place last week. The reporters renew their annual remark, that there is a great improvement in the exhibition of better symmetry and in the decline of over-fed beasts; no prize being given this year to specimens of mere fattening. There is one tall and big ox, the property of Sir Harry Verney, and one big pig, a "Berkshire hog," of vast dimensions. On the whole, the show has been good, but not striking. In Devons, Lord Leicester carries off the first-class prize; in Herefords, Lord Radnor; in short-horns, Mr. Richard Stratton; the Duke of Richmond wins three prizes out of five for short-woolled sheep. Mr. G. S. Foljambe, of Worksop, winning the chief prizes for long-woolled sheep. In pigs, Mr. John Coate, of Hammon, carries away the first-class prize from Prince Albert; the Prince getting the second first, and the first of the second-class for the same animals. A splendid show of "roots" from Dublin is noticed; and plenty of agricultural implements. The attendance has been unusually full and distinguished. The customary dinner of the Club took place on Wednesday; the Duke of Richmond in the chair. The chairman, Lord Berners, Lord Portman, and Mr. Philip Pusey, made speeches, on topics purely and technically agricultural.

#### ACCIDENTS AND OFFENCES.

A man named Field has been killed at New Holland, near Hull, in a fight with another man named M'Guire, with whom he quarrelled. They fought for an hour, when Field fell down exhausted and insensible. He was carried into Hull, where he died. M'Guire has been taken into custody. Both the principals had drunk very freely of brandy before leaving Hull, that they might fight the more vigorously.

On Saturday evening, a foolish drunkard at Liverpool undertook for a wager of 1l. to drink a glass of strong ale every five minutes for an hour. He won the bet, but at the expiration of the sixty minutes he was dead drunk, foaming at the mouth, and in a dangerous state. The stomach-pump, however, was successfully applied.

On the 19th ult., a lad aged 16, at Snenton, jumped off a table, and accidentally ran a piece of wire through his shoe into his toe. The wound was not, to all appearance, a very serious one, and on getting home he put a linseed poultice on it. The place seemed rapidly to heal up, and four days after he returned to his work. When he got home in the evening, he complained of his hip and back, and a doctor was called in to see him; but his services were useless. The poor boy grew worse, and died in great agony.

Hetty Churchman, of Foulmire, Cambridgeshire, and her two daughters, Mary and Esther, have been committed for trial on the charge of conspiring to murder the illegitimate child of one of the younger women.

During the fog, about five o'clock on Tuesday evening in last week, a passenger-train came into collision with a luggage-train which was being shunted across both lines at the Barton Moss station of the Manchester and Liverpool Railway. The shock was very severe, and, though many persons were bruised, no one, it appears, was seriously injured. The engine of the passenger-train was so much shattered as to be quite disabled; the tender was destroyed, and the break van was smashed up. The last two waggons in the luggage-train were also demolished, and their contents, together with the other wreck, completely blocked up



both lines of rails. Fog signals, it appears, had been laid down, but not far enough from the station to arrest the passenger-train in time.

The other day, a child was killed in Manchester, by having fallen from the bed into which it was placed, and between a set of drawers, by which the little creature hung on its chin until it died.

It is a singular fact that during the last week Mr. Baker, the coroner for East Middlesex, has held no fewer than twenty inquests on the bodies of children suffocated by being overlaid by their parents. The deaths from suffocation always increase about this season of the year, but the mortality for the past seven days surpasses all previous returns.

A man named Nolan at a small village in Galway, a few days since, quarrelled with his father, and in the heat of altercation struck him with a spade-tree which caused his death. It has been alleged that the murderer has been for a long period subject to fits of insanity, that it was in one of these moments he committed the fatal deed, and that he was tried for homicide some years ago, but acquitted on the ground of "temporary insanity."

A sailor in the Royal navy died a few days ago in Haslar Hospital, after much painful suffering, arising it was supposed from dropsy, but two hours before his death a living snake, nine inches in length, came out of his mouth. It is supposed that the deceased must have swallowed the reptile when it was young, drinking water, when the Hastings was out in India, as the ship laid for some time at Trincomalee, and close to a small island called Snake Island. The crew used very often to find snakes on board.

There has been an incendiary fire at the Convent of the Sisters of Mercy, Dighton-street, Bristol. A few evenings ago, owing to a strong smell of fire, the sisters called in a policeman, who, on going to the upper story of the building, was surprised to find that in two separate rooms the bed furniture, bedding, beds, and mattresses were on fire. With the assistance of the inmates of the dwelling, after considerable difficulty, he succeeded in extinguishing the flames, but not until a great deal of property had been sacrificed. The policeman felt convinced that the two rooms could not have been fired simultaneously, in the same way precisely, unless it was a wilful act on the part of some person or persons. The origin of the fires is involved in mystery.

### Literature.

*Memoirs of the Life and Writings of John Pye Smith, D.D., L.L.D., F.R.S., F.G.S., &c.,* late Theological Tutor of the Old College, Homerton. By JOHN MEDWAY. London: Jackson and Walford.

THE name of Dr. Pye Smith will commend this volume to readers belonging to every sect and party in the Christian Church. It has been long known to the public as that of a Dissenting Minister and Divinity Tutor, who joined to the highest eminence in his own particular calling a catholic appreciation of science and learning, which entitled him to rank with the best scholars and to be regarded as one of the leading theologians of his time. Dr. Pye Smith was a recognised great man, amongst Bishops, University Professors, and scientific men, to whom no other contemporary Dissenting minister was known at all; and he entered into literary circles, to which his brethren have not been often accustomed to penetrate. He was revered for his great abilities and attainments, admired as a good and large-hearted man, and read extensively, as a learned writer on biblical subjects, by more persons *outside* of his own denomination and personal sphere even than within it. It is this large and widely-comprehensive circle that has waited with interest, at least, and in many cases with eagerness, for some memorials of a man universally beloved and respected, and of a life which could not but be worth studying and prove full of instruction. It is to this large audience that Mr. Medway speaks. He has no mean subject, no merely denominational body of readers; he writes under peculiar circumstances, and for the literary and scholarly.

These facts make it a critic's duty to apply very severe tests to Mr. Medway's performance; for it is right to presume that such facts exerted their great and important influence on the selection of the biographer, first of all, and then on the cast of his work, and the purposes under the guidance of which it was completed. If the book be beneath its subject, and little fitted to preserve the image of such a Christian scholar amongst the men best able to value his achievements and to understand his character,—if it prove to be little likely to commend his piety and devoted life, to those who are scholarly but not Christian, scientific but not devout,—then who would not say that it is a lamentable failure, and that it is of inconsiderable moment that

the family, the Church, and the students of Dr. Smith, should be able to find what is adequate to *their* special want in such a biography, if the other demands remain unsatisfied?

We must frankly confess that such a *failure* these memoirs seem to us to be. Every preparation for interest, every motive (both for the sake of the subject and the author) to a candid and kindly reading, existed in our case, when we took up the volume. We tried hard all along to be satisfied,—when wearied, we blamed ourselves, laid down the book, and came again to it fresh and genial,—and when we had ended, and felt worried and displeased with the labour, we laid it aside, that after-perusal of particular places, and calm thoughts about the whole, might influence and determine the judgment we had to pronounce. This, by the way, is the secret, and the sole cause, of our delay in reviewing it. And now, speaking gently and modestly, we are bound to say, that tried by *our* tests, as knowing Dr. Smith personally and as familiar with all his works, this volume is exceedingly unsatisfactory, and quite unworthy of its subject. If right feeling, sincere admiration, deep and hearty affection, and cultivated intelligence, were themselves enough to make a good biographer, Mr. Medway would have succeeded: and, certainly, in the general sentiment, and in the whole spirit of the book—as well as in its evident laboriousness and conscientiousness—he has deserved the warm approbation and affection of all Dr. Smith's friends and pupils. But as a literary work—as a biography, in short—it cannot command our esteem or commendation.

Mr. Medway does not seem to have a good idea of a biography,—does not appear to see all the parts in relation to a whole, and so loses fitness, proportion, and unity. He is *himself* too prominent;—one never forgets the narrator; and at times, he is a commentator on facts, an expositor of a life, rather than a biographer in the proper sense. We remember that in the Preface he refers to the comparative absence of journals, letters, and other documents, as the "inducement" to endeavour to furnish information "by remarks of his own," which he fears may have been done "too frequently." But, we intend our complaint to extend to both the unnecessary frequency with which Mr. Medway speaks when he has only opinion and not fact to offer, and to the *manner* in which he has made use of such original materials as *have* been introduced. Nor can we forbear to say, that the tameness, prosiness, and prolixity of the biographer's style, make the case all the worse. So far from the matter he personally furnishes being a relief and refreshment as the reader proceeds, it is, even when the substance is most valuable, unrelievedly dull and uninteresting. Mr. Medway, indeed, pleads his "want of experience or practice in writing for the press;" but *that*, if he duly considered the repute of his friend and tutor, and the great claims which would justly be made on himself, ought to have deterred him from undertaking the task, or, if really felt by him during its progress, should have induced him to lay it aside. An author's modesty and consciousness of defect may add to the renown and praise he gains for a good and worthy work, but can never excuse or compensate for an ill performance.

We should have restrained these remarks if we could; but the habit of carrying personal friendships and party feeling into literature, has bred at length a species of denominational criticism amongst Dissenters, which inflicts deep injury, and is now nearly unbearable. Mr. Medway will be told that he has an "elegant pen," an "accomplished manner," a "sound judgment," an "enlightened piety," and a lot more sound and elegant and enlightened things. He will be assured that he has "succeeded perfectly," and that "every one must be satisfied." We are inclined to think from his Preface, Mr. Medway is really *too* "sound" to believe such critics. He may be patted and patronised by those who would not like to hurt his feelings or injure the book; but he will quite as readily, and with more pleasure, hear others honestly say—"This is a mistake; you have not done justice to 'the blessed Doctor,'—not even to *yourself*."

We must take special exception to all that part of the volume relating to Dr. Smith's first marriage. The impression it produces—as we

have *proved* by asking some score of readers—is, that Dr. Smith was a poor, spiritless, contemptible person; in whose case of domestic infelicity much was to be attributed to his own absurd littleness, and is therefore to be regarded with scorn rather than sympathy. We may add, that the whole impression of Mr. Medway's portraiture is, that the Doctor was *weak and little*, in no few particulars, and to no small extent. The pettiness of some of the statements in the biography are reflected back on the *man*; and considerable *unlikeness* belongs to the image on the *reader's* mind, although Mr. Medway himself may have understood Dr. Smith well, and appreciated him highly.

We have not attempted an outline of Dr. Smith's life, nor do we add any extract from this volume. We have delayed this notice too long for the one or the other to be really necessary, seeing that the monthlies circulating amongst Nonconformists have all sketched the career of this good great man, and have presented quotations from the "Memoirs" to their readers. We therefore have unhesitatingly taken another course. Our personal love and reverence for Dr. Smith, and our desire of seeing him depicted truly and suggestively to the scholarly and scientific class to which he belonged,—and *not* for the edification of "our denomination" alone, and *not* with the manner and feeling of "a meeting-house sermon,"—these are the only reasons for our free use of criticism, which itself has been excessively painful and disagreeable to us. After all, to friends and pupils this "Memoir" will be welcome, for the sake of the subject, and for the good feeling and affectionate spirit of the author.

### THE NEW AND UNIFORM EDITION OF THE "CONGREGATIONAL LECTURES."

We have now before us the second issue of four volumes of the "Congregational Lectures," being the fifth, seventh, ninth, and twelfth of the series. The perfectness of the style in which these valuable works are reproduced, and the unparalleled cheapness at which they are offered, entitle the publishers to the fullest encouragement of the Congregational body, and must ensure the approval and ready purchase of the series by the public generally.

Dr. REDFORD'S "*Holy Scripture Verified*," appears to be reprinted from the first edition, without alteration. It is a book well-known for its ability and worth. Mr. WALTER SCOTT'S "*Existence of Evil Spirits*," is a revised reprint of the second edition. Dr. WINTER HAMILTON'S "*Rewards and Punishments*," is of course untouched by any other hand; but a note is added by the editor, briefly narrating the death of the lamented writer, who issued this work almost as his last labour before entering on the great and awful UNSEEN, to which its remarkable pages are devoted.

Dr. LINDSAY ALEXANDER has worked thoroughly and valuably at his "Connexion and Harmony of the Old and New Testaments." The original work was one highly esteemed by us, but is quite superseded by this new edition. Not merely has it been revised carefully, but, as the author says, "numerous emendations, the result of mature study, or more extended reading, have been introduced; and *extensive additions* have been made, both to the *text* and *notes*." We will not say what these additional matters consist of (although we have compared the two editions), but will recommend our readers to the volume as one of the best and most useful of the series—learned, scholarly, well-thought, and well-written. It is undoubtedly the standard work on the subject, and likely long to continue so.

### THE MAGAZINES FOR DECEMBER.

The second number of the *London Quarterly* is much more to our taste than the first. The atmosphere of dull respectability that obscured its dawn, has already given place to an air sunny, if not bracing. The articles in the present number are either on topics of the time, or are so written as to be always of interest and value. Among the former, we may mention the papers on Oriental Discovery—The Bible Society—and Our Australian Possessions; of the latter description, those on The Natural History of Man—Monkish Literature—The Dukes and Cardinals of Guise—and Autobiography. While praising all of these for their combined



solidity and liveliness, we must mention the two last-named as especially admirable. The chapter from French history is written with a pen able to do justice to its many splendid characters and incidents; the paper on "Autobiography" has all the freshness and beauty that genius can give to the trite and trivial things of life. The two or three extracts subjoined will invite perusal of the entire number:—

#### THE BIBLE SOCIETY'S LIBRARY.

"Very few, probably, of our readers are aware of the important result of the Society's labours, as it appears in the progressive formation of its invaluable biblical library: we shall, therefore be excused for laying before some of our remoter biblical students a general summary of this unique library. The bulk of the volumes are copies of the Scriptures, including, in addition to those in which the Society has been immediately concerned, rare copies of first or early editions of the Bible in various languages, many of which have been presented to the library by generous contributors, who wisely concluded that volumes so scarce and precious were thus likely to be more useful and more safely preserved, than if retained in private possession. We well know that some of our collegiate institutions may boast even rarer treasures of this nature; but we are persuaded that no national, collegiate, or private biblical library, can approach that which is to be found on the Society's premises in Blackfriars. In addition to the printed Bibles there are also valuable copies of more or less of the Scriptures in manuscript, in about fifty different languages, some of which have never yet appeared in print. The MSS. are, indeed, not all strictly parts of the Bible, but they all relate to it, and form a most important apparatus to departments of bibliographic criticism entirely new. A considerable portion of this curious collection consists of lexicons, grammars, and other philological treatises which refer to the business of translation. This library contains also a large assortment of commentaries, liturgies, catechisms, books of topography and travel, and the reports of all the Bible Societies in the world, together with a great variety of miscellaneous works, all converging on the existence and objects of the Society. But the feature of the library which is most attractive to ourselves, next to the Bibles in all languages and the MSS. to which we have referred, is a collection of twelve folio volumes, also in manuscript, containing the history of the translations in ninety-four languages, in which the Society had been concerned, down to 1829. And we are informed that similar materials are preserved for continuing these historic records to the present time."

#### INDIRECT RESULTS OF BIBLE DISTRIBUTION.

"Apart from the especial object of its existence, no reasonable doubts can be entertained, that the Society has conferred important benefits on the community at large. Not to claim credit for the origination of a certain increase of trade, and for the virtual destruction of the Bible monopoly, the moral condition of the nation is now far better understood, through that extended system of domiciliary visitation, which the agents of the Bible Society have employed, that they might learn and publish the wants of the poor. These visitants have brought to light terrific proofs of educational and religious indigence, which have largely contributed to that better care for the poor which is characteristic of the present age. Most of the friends of Bible distribution are also advocates of education; and many a school and church owe their foundation to the discoveries thus made; while to the same cause is attributable the existence of a great number of new charitable institutions, and the increased activity of old ones. To some adequate cause it must be referred, that the national habits are altogether so ameliorated within the present century, that the races of wine-bibbing clergy and roystering gentry are almost extinct. The solitary churlishness which, a generation ago, often distinguished the man of property, and the rancid acrimony of political intolerance, are also on the wane. The sons of the older gentry have been made to acknowledge that the *parvenus* of successful commerce have proved their equals, whether in the college or on the hustings; while the well-educated women of the middle classes have approximated to their aristocratic sisters, in almost every particular but that of rank. Drunkenness, improvidence, and rudeness of manners, still remain among the poor; but even they reason better than their superiors of a former age, and many working men are better read in the history of the world, and of the sciences that nourish trade, than the mass of those thiraty squires who served the shrievalty half a century back, and hung men without remorse for poaching a shilling's worth of fish by night, or passing a base crown over the counter. Even Parliament has caught the influence of improvement, and no longer tolerates duels, or shouts stentorian applause to speeches only remarkable for their rank and excessive imagery, or for their maudlin intolerance; nor does it now permit its orators to finish harangues against revolution, by flinging a dirk into the floor."

#### OMINOUS RELATIONS OF AUSTRIA AND FRANCE.

"When Cardinal Fleury annexed the Duchy of Lorraine to France, it was by arrangement with Austria; and, according to this arrangement, Francis of Lorraine received in exchange the Grand Duchy of Tuscany, and the hand of Maria Theresa. Their heirs form the Imperial house of Hapsburg-Lorraine. On two occasions have brides been selected therefrom to share the throne of France; and on both occasions the occupiers of the throne were flung from their seats. When Marie Antoinette married Louis the Dauphin, people muttered with prophetic significance, "Lorraine and France!" When Napoleon espoused Marie Louise, some of the Bourbons were terrified at the idea of a new dynasty; but Louis XVIII., then at Hartwell, smiled gaily at the intelligence, and augured Napoleon's ruin from his alliance with the house of Lorraine. And so it was! The race is still fatal to liberty. As a proof of the assertion, it is only necessary to point to the Grand Duke of Tuscany, the descendant of the Francis of Lorraine who married the Empress of Germany, and the representative of the house of Guise. The persecutor of the *Madiai*, and gaoler of Miss Cuninghame, is worthy of the descent of which he boasts. The bad blood of the Guises is, indeed, his; but he lacks their one solitary virtue—the *bellica virtus* of courage. It is simply by way of appendix that we mention the fact, that the last-born grandson of Louis Philippe has just been endowed with the ominous title of Duke of Guise. Is there any significance in this? And will he cross the

frontier of France, like his young predecessor, but not his ancestor, more than three centuries ago, and attempt to re-construct the greatness of Orleans, now nearly as extinct as the once perilous greatness of Guise?"

The *Eclectic* contains this month instructive and entertaining articles on the Animal Instincts, and on the Phenomena of Table-turning, &c.; but is distinguished by a review of *Bleak House*—a general vindication of Dickens's last work from the current imputation of failure, but closing with a protest rendered necessary, we apprehend, rather by the ignorance of the public than the ill-intention of the author:—

"We regret that before we close we must speak disapprovingly of one part of the design running through this, in many respects, fascinating book. There is an evident attempt to bring odium on the pastors of the *unprincipled* sects, and on the enterprises of world-wide philanthropy which form one of the chief glories of the age in which we live. Mr. Dickens has found it convenient before to introduce the ministers of Bethel, Zions, and Ebenezers, to his readers; and we regret that he has not been charitable enough to give a fairer example of them than is to be found in Mr. Chadband, a man whose principal characteristics are, speaking abominable English, stuffing himself with hot muffins, drinking we know not how many cups of tea, and rejoicing when he can get a stiff portion of a stronger beverage. The pages of *Bleak House* will be read by many whose knowledge of the clergy is derived from intercourse with nothing lower than the dignified gentlemanly rector or vicar; and we are afraid that the writer may wish to suggest to them, that the personage he has described is a sample of a class which numbers thousands in this land. If so, we can only say, that it is an insinuation which there are hundreds of thousands qualified and prepared to deny. We suppose Mr. Dickens has not had opportunities for judging fairly of the men whom he caricatures. We advise him to leave them alone, and to eschew allusions to matters which are beyond his reach. We understand what he means; and we can tell him that the violation of good taste, by what better-informed people know to be scandalously false and mischievous insinuations, reflects no credit on his intelligence, and can gratify none but the ignorant and irreligious vulgar in any rank of life."

In the Editor's monthly summary of events—not the least valuable department of the *Eclectic*—we find the following remarks, in connexion with others suggested by the recent Congregational Union meetings. We quote them that we may add to the closing sentence the expression of our emphatic dissent:—

"That Congregational Churches should be free in this matter without losing their Congregationalism is likely to be admitted by all intelligent adherents to our common principles; and that many improvements in psalmody and in the method of prayer have been adopted, especially in new and 'church'-like edifices, will scarcely be doubted; but there are more difficulties connected with the avowed use of 'Forms of Prayer' than those who have not tried it are likely to suspect. Any wide departure from the long-accustomed freedom of Nonconformist worship seems to us to be a doubtful experiment: the grand point is—to cultivate the simplicity and richness of devotional expression, which give so much charm to the 'Book of Common Prayer,' and still more to conduct that part of the public worship with the solemnity and earnestness of spirit which are, happily, independent alike of forms or of their absence. Dr. Pys Smith's 'Discourse on the Comparison of Forms and Free Prayer' may be read with profit by those who take an interest in such discussions. Some inconvenience has arisen from the publicity given to the merely conversational remarks made at these meetings. Would it not be better to confine such publicity to the formal speeches of members? At Manchester, the Union was nearly hurried, by the rashness of one member, into becoming a 'Church Court,' which assuredly it was never intended to be, and could not be without abandoning the distinctive principle of Congregationalism."

In our judgment, the tendency of unions to become "Church Courts" is inevitable; and entire publicity is the only restraint on that dangerous, ineradicable impulse.

In the *Monthly Christian Spectator* we turn first to the editor's "Word with our Readers;" from which we learn with much satisfaction that "the experiment which it was intended by the establishment of this journal fairly to test"—namely, the possibility of maintaining a periodical unsectarian, religious, and literary; conducted by men of independence, culture, and liberality—"may be assumed to have partially succeeded." We believe the *Spectator* has well sustained the high character with which it started; and we heartily endorse the editor's appeal that his partial success may be carried on to perfection.

*Blackwood* has a third article on "Narcotics;" in which we find the appalling novelty that arsenic, eaten in discreet moderation—and persisted in—freshens the complexion, plumps out the skin, and strengthens the "wind," whether of man or horse!—as is well known to the Styrian peasants, to whom is arsenic as tobacco to the Englishman, or opium to the Chinese. In the same number is the first chapter of a new story—"The Quiet Heart"—evidently by the hand that has lately contributed two exquisitely beautiful productions of this class to the columns through which Croly and Warren once poured their mingled fire and water.

The *Leisure Hour*, the *Home Thought*, the

*Wesley Banner*, and several other periodical friends, demand from us a word of special recognition on the completion of their yearly or half-yearly volumes; but that word can be better said when—starting afresh with 1854—we make a comprehensive review of our periodical literature. But we must not postpone so long the notice, that some very useful articles on the strikes are to be found in the *Merchant's Magazine*;—and that the Messrs. Orr have put out an introductory number of a new serial, entitled the *Circle of the Sciences*: the prospectus makes large promises, but sustains them by highly respectable names; and the inaugural treatise shows that from the *Circle* the good old science of Natural Theology will not be omitted.

*Curiosities of London Life; or, Phases, Physiological and Social, of the Great Metropolis.* By CHARLES MANBY SMITH. London: W. and F. G. Cash.

SOME time back we had the pleasure of introducing and recommending to our readers, a well-written and entertaining volume, with the title, "The Working-Man's Way in the World." We learn from the title-page of the book now before us, that the anonymous author is—really little better than anonymous after all—Mr. C. M. Smith. The "Working-Man," however, has made his "way in the world" as an author; and has received enough encouragement to induce him to collect certain of his papers, scattered in different periodicals, under the general description of "Curiosities of London Life." He says: "It has been my custom, for many years past, to regard the streets of London as an open book, in which he that runs to and fro may read as he goes along, gathering not merely amusement and excitement, but valuable instruction too, from its ever-varying pages." The results of his daily observations, for some seven years, are here thrown into sketches of classes, persons, occupations, and peculiarities of London life, many of which hide from the eyes of well-to-do men of business, of the idler of fashion, and the seeker of pleasure, but have both a moral interest and a social importance, making them quite worthy of more than a desultory inquiry or a passing glance.

It is possible that Mr. Manby Smith owes something in the way of suggestion at least, to Mr. Mayhew; but Mr. Smith's book is much the more complete literary production, often more interesting in its character, and altogether more adapted to unrestricted perusal in families. As the real value and usefulness of such a book must depend on its truth and faithfulness, we are glad to receive the author's assurance that he has never overstepped the limits of fact, and that the pieces of fiction sometimes necessary both for himself and for persons sketched or referred to, are never permitted to destroy the fidelity of the details.

There are many of these "studies from the life" that we should be glad to quote, and that would immensely gratify our readers. But the pressure on our columns of literature is just now becoming severe, and the season will speedily make it more so. Thanking Mr. Smith, then, for a capital book, we heartily commend it to our readers, as having both rich amusement for the leisure hour, and profitable social and moral, suggestion for times of serious study.

#### BOOKS RECEIVED.

Home Pictures. Clarke, Beeton, and Co.  
Modern Edinburgh. Religious Tract Society.  
Usurer's Daughter. Clarke, Beeton, and Co.  
Too Clever by Half. N. Cooke.  
Child's Companion. Religious Tract Society.  
Struggles for Life. W. and F. G. Cash.  
The Life of Martin Luther. N. Cooke.  
Being, Analytically Described in its Chief Respects. Chapman.  
Conversations on the Choral Service. T. Harrison.  
Journal of Health. Simpkin, Marshall, and Co.  
The Forum and the Vatican. J. Nisbet.  
History of Speculative Philosophy. T. and T. Clark.  
Stars of the East. Religious Tract Society.  
The Christian Wreath. Religious Tract Society.  
A Martyrology of the Churches of Christ. Vol. II. Haddon and Son.  
The Pilgrim Fathers. A. Hall.  
The Scottish Congregational Magazine. A. Fullarton and Co.  
A Lamp to the Path. T. Nelson.  
The Warriors of our Wooden Walls. Aylott and Co.  
Christ our Passover. A. Hall.  
The Races. A. Gardner.  
Houston on Baptism. A. Gardner.  
A Sermon by W. Symington, B.D. A. Gardner.  
The British Controversialist. Houlston and Stoneman.  
The Irish Evangelical Mission. J. Snow.  
A Tract for the Times, by Ross. J. Snow.  
Gold and the Gospel. J. Nisbet.

#### Facts and Fancies.

A woman named Isabella Chava died in Seville a fortnight since, in the 115th year of her age!

According to *Galignani's Messenger*, Jenny Lind (Madame Goldschmidt) is about to return to the stage.

Eggs are being imported in immense quantities from Spain, and potatoes from Portugal.

The new comet discovered by Mr. Hind, on the 8th ult., is to be called "Euterpe."

The Prussian Prayer-book enjoins that the whole of the service, including the sermon, shall not exceed an hour.

Some time ago (says the *Scotsman*), a respectable man was "excommunicated" by a Dissenting Kirk session in Edinburgh, because it was his duty to take the mail to



Berwick each fourth or fifth Sunday; and of the four elders who attended the inquisition that Sunday, three had come in cabs!

If I want a statue of myself, why should I be foolish to present a sculptor with the marble for the work?—Because if I did, he would be sure to chisel me out of it.

The *Hull Advertiser* says: Mr. Routledge, the publisher, who has astonished the bookselling fraternity by agreeing to pay Bulwer 2,000*l.* a year for ten years for the copyright of his novels, is said to have sold 600,000 copies of "Uncle Tom's Cabin," by which he cleared 15,000*l.*

Shaving (says Dr. Elliotson) prevails in Europe because the kings of France set the example to their courtiers, who were followed by the nation, which formerly gave the *ton* to neighbouring nations, and therefore was at length followed by all in this troublesome and unmanly fashion.

A capitalist proposes to organise a company with the view of obtaining from the authorities of the consolidated city of New York and Brooklyn, by the payment of a heavy bonus, the right to lay down railroad tracks in any street they may think proper. The charge for riding over the road for any distance, long or short, to be three cents for each passenger, with a reduction for those who desire to commute.

The Messrs. Tassaud have just completed a portrait model from authentic sources of the Sultan Abdul Medjid. His Imperial Majesty is in the European costume, and dressed in a blue frock-coat, decorated on his left breast with a brilliant star of the order of the Crescent. The Sultan is thirty-years of age, with dark hair and beard; his countenance exhibits a melancholy cast, with great debility and languor, so common to Orientals.

December 2 is a right Imperial day. That day, twenty eight years ago, the Emperor Nicholas came to the throne; that day, fifty seven years ago, the Emperor Francis Joseph came to the throne; that day, one year ago, the Emperor Louis Napoleon came to the throne; that day, forty eight years ago, the Emperor of France fought the battle of Austerlitz against the Emperors of Russia and Austria.

Lately, in the Exchequer, in the midst of a learned argument upon the construction of an act of Parliament, in which the pronoun "he" occurred, the learned Chief Baron observed: "It has been the course of modern legislation to enact that the word *he* may be read *she*." "Precisely so," added Mr. Baron Alderson, "and the singular may be made plural: ergo, *one man* may be taken to mean *three women*!" Consequently, "three women" may be taken as the equivalent of "nine tailors."

The *Cambridge Independent* says that the following is a precise copy of a scrap of paper found at Ely station in the waiting-room. As the gentleman into whose hands it has fallen thinks it probable the owner may require it, he has charitably sent it for publication: "Ladies and gentlemen, I feel truly grateful for the honour you have done me in proposing and drinking the health of the bride and myself, and in return I beg leave to drink all your good healths, wishing at the same time that health and happiness may attend you all."

Messrs. Bradbury and Evans have been appointed printers to the Crystal Palace Company. They are to pay the authors of the books they print for the company, and to pay such prices as the company shall direct to be paid. In other words, the company will draw cheques for their authors upon their printers, and Messrs. Bradbury and Evans must get their money back out of the profits of their printing. Their first payments will include sums, not too liberal nor too large, to Sir Gardner Wilkinson and Mr. Layard. So unusual a contract has elicited many speculative remarks.

*Parker's American Journal* gives the following highly-satisfactory explanation of spirit rappings, furnished by a scientific gentleman: The only true and legitimate manner of accounting for the taps is the physiological effect of the membranous system. The obtuseness of the abdominal indication causes the cartilaginous compressor to congregate into the diaphragm, and depresses the diaphragm into the flandango. Now, if the taps were caused by the rogarion of the electricity from the extremities, the *tympanum* would also dissolve into spiritual rinctum, and the olfactory would ferment and become identical with the pigmentum. Now, this is not the case. In order to produce the taps, the spiritual rotundum must be elevated down to the spiritual spero. But, as I said before, the inferior ligaments must not subtend over the dignitorium sufficiently to disorganise the stericletum."

The American papers report two great inventions. The first, a machine for excavating rock formations, consists of a number of rotating steel discs, worked by steam, which seize and crush the hardest rocks with irresistible power. Exclusively of the engine and boiler, the machine weighs seventy-five tons; it is easily worked by four men. The other machine is described as "a mechanical nautilus," enabling persons to go to the bottom of the sea or of rivers, and remain there to perform any works needed, such as laying foundations, exploring, gathering treasure, &c. Several gentlemen, among them Mr. Robert Walker, have been down to the bottom of the sea; remaining there half an hour, and moving about at pleasure. The description furnished by the papers is unintelligible; but the principle of the invention appears to be the use of compressed air, on whose expansion, regulated at will, the vehicle floats, while an arrangement of grapnels and cords is used for locomotion.

## Bank of England.

(From Friday's Gazette.)

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 32, for the Week ending on Saturday, the 3rd day of December, 1853.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.	
Notes issued.....	£28,406,590
Government Debt.....	£11,015,100
Other Securities.....	2,984,900
Gold Coin & Bullion.....	14,406,590
Silver Bullion.....	—
£28,406,590	£28,406,590

BANKING DEPARTMENT.	
Proprietors' Capital.....	£14,553,000
Reserve.....	3,175,626
Public Deposits.....	7,659,924
Other Deposits.....	11,480,162
Seven Day and other Bills.....	1,226,912
£38,095,624	£38,095,624

December 8, 1853.

M. MARSHALL, Chief Cashier.

## BIRTHS.

September 27, at Serampore, East Indies, the wife of Rev. J. TRAFFORD, of a son.  
December 4, at the Hall, Bawtry, the Hon. Mrs. MONCKTON MILNER, of a son, stillborn.  
December 8, at 472, Oxford-street, the wife of Mr. P. W. CLAYDEN, of a daughter.  
December 9, at New Park-lodge, Brixton-hill, the wife of THOMAS GUINNY, Esq., of a son.  
December 10, at 10, Upper Grosvenor-street, Lady BUXTON, of a daughter.

## MARRIAGES.

December 5, at the Independent Chapel, Ashton, in Mackerfield, by the Rev. F. C. DOWTHWAITE, Mr. HENRY SHAW, of Ashton, to Miss BETTY DEAN, of the same place.  
December 7, at Isleworth, by the Rev. John Stoughton, the Rev. JOSEPH WHITING, to MARIA, fourth daughter of the late W. ASHBY, Esq., of Hounslow.  
December 7, at Ipswich, by the Rev. Isaac Lord, ARTHUR STONE RIDLEY, Esq., Newgate-street, London, to FANNY MEACT, youngest daughter of STEPHEN PIPER, Esq., Ipswich.  
December 8, at the Rev. J. Curwen's Chapel, Plalstow, by the Rev. Josiah Viney, ROBERT, eldest son of R. GAMMAN, Esq., of Wilnot-square, Bethnal-green, to SARAH ANN, eldest daughter of J. C. DEXTER, Esq., of Haddington House, West Ham.  
December 10, at the English Baptist Chapel, Trefforest, by the Rev. David Davies, Mr. MARTIN, engineer, to Miss ESTHER WINEFRED, daughter of Mr. W. EVANS, timber merchant, Trefforest.  
December 10, at Abney Chapel, Stoke Newington, by the Rev. John Jefferson, Mr. F. PAYNE, of Stoke Newington, to EMMA, youngest daughter of Mr. ATTON, Stamford-hill.

## DEATHS.

November 28, at his residence, Enon House, the Rev. MICHAEL THOMAS, aged seventy-five. For many years president of the Baptist Academy; the founder, and for more than forty-six years the pastor of the Baptist Church, Frogmore-street, Aberystwyth.  
December 2, at Castle-meadow, Norwich, AMELIA, widow of J. OPIE, Esq., R.A., and only daughter of the late J. ALDERSON, M.D., of that city.  
December 4, A. H. CHAMBERS, Esq., of the Cottage, Paddington, aged ninety.  
December 5, at Oxford, Mrs. ANN TOMES, aged seventy-nine.  
December 6, Lieutenant HACKETT, R.N., twenty years Governor of the County Gaol, Reading, aged sixty.  
December 7, at Luscombe, near Dawlish, FRANCES DOROTHEA, widow of the late C. HOARE, Esq., of Luscombe, Devon, and Fleet-street, London, in her sixty-fourth year.  
December 8, deeply regretted, Mr. WILLIAM SHANFIELD, of Manningtree, aged seventy.  
December 9, at King's-road, Clapham-park, the Rev. W. CLEGG, Wesleyan minister, residing at Ventnor, but just returned from a voyage to Australia.  
December 9, at Dalston, Mr. J. NEWMAN, formerly a member of the Church at Argyll Chapel, Bath, but resident for many years in London, aged seventy.  
December 11, suddenly, MARY, the beloved wife of ROBERT BURLA, minister of the Gospel, Maldon, Essex, in her fifty-fifth year.  
At Ramsgate, Mr. THOMAS TIMOTHY SADLER, in his sixty-second year.

## Money Market and Commercial Intelligence.

City, Tuesday Evening.

Up to Monday, notwithstanding the Eastern Question the Funds maintained their firmness, but although nearly a million sterling was announced from America and Australia, the intelligence of the Russian naval victory produced an unfavourable impression, and Consols declined  $\frac{1}{2}$ . To-day the decline continued, but towards the close of business there was greater firmness. The Money Market has become easier since the beginning of the month. The demand for accommodation is much more moderate, the supply of money is good, and the rates of discount are lower, but not under the minimum of the Bank of England.

The last return from the Bank of England, was, contrary to general expectation, devoid of any unfavourable feature of importance. Although the public deposits showed a slight increase only, and the private securities an increase, the stock of bullion was scarcely altered, and there was an increase in the Reserve of Notes and General Securities.

The imports of the precious metals during the past week have been considerable, about 610,000*l.* sterling, of which more than one-half is known to be in silver. Silver also continues to be sent here from some points of the continent. The ascertained shipments amount to under 70,000*l.*

The Foreign Stock Market has been active, and prices well maintained. Ecuador Bonds are at  $5\frac{1}{2}$ ; Grenada Deferred,  $8\frac{1}{2}$ ; Mexican Stock for the Account has fallen to  $2\frac{1}{2}$ ; Russian Bonds have been dealt in at  $112\frac{1}{2}$ ; ditto Four-and-a-Half per Cents, from  $98\frac{1}{2}$  to  $98\frac{1}{2}$ ; Sardinian, 90 90*ex div.*; Spanish are firm at  $47$ ; ditto Deferred,  $22\frac{1}{2}$ ; Dutch Four per Cents, are at  $96$  and  $95\frac{1}{2}$  for the Account.

The Share Market has been rather unsteady, but prices are, if anything, firmer. Great Northerns have ranged from  $87$  to  $86$ ; Great Westerns,  $84$ ; Lancashire and Yorkshire have improved to  $68\frac{1}{2}$ , and Lancaster and Carlisle are  $21$  higher to-day; Brightons were dealt in at  $101$ ; and North-Westerns at  $104$ ; Midlands,  $64\frac{1}{2}$   $64\frac{1}{2}$ ; South-Westerns are about  $10s$  lower; South-Easterns ranged from  $64\frac{1}{2}$  to  $63\frac{1}{2}$ . In foreign shares there were but few transactions. Northern of France were dealt in at  $35\frac{1}{2}$   $35\frac{1}{2}$ ; Western of France,  $189$ . Colonial shares were more inquired for. Great Western of Canada changed hands at par; Hamilton and Toronto at  $\frac{1}{2}$  prem; Great Indian Peninsula  $6\frac{1}{2}$ .

Copper mines were actively dealt in, Santiago De Cuba from  $6\frac{1}{2}$  to  $7\frac{1}{2}$ , a rise of  $1\frac{1}{2}$   $10s$ . All the Mexicans were firm. Bank shares were heavy. English and Scottish,  $1$  dis; Oriental  $49$ ; Australian Agricultural was steady at  $47\frac{1}{2}$ ; Peel River,  $\frac{1}{2}$  to  $\frac{1}{2}$  prem; British American Land rose to  $73$ , an advance of  $6\frac{1}{2}$ , in a few days; Crystal Palace,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  prem.

The amount of railway calls falling due in December is  $934,496\frac{1}{2}$ . The total amount called in all 1853 is  $11,258,273\frac{1}{2}$ , against  $8,043,004\frac{1}{2}$ , in 1852, showing an increase of  $3,215,269\frac{1}{2}$ .

The reports of the trade of the provincial towns during the past week show great activity in most cases, and steadiness in all. At Manchester, by the adoption of short time, the rate of production has been brought within the existing demand, and prices, consequently, are more firm. Meanwhile, the strikes, with partial exceptions at Bacup and elsewhere, still continue. From Birmingham the accounts of prosperity in the iron trade are uninterrupted. The recent alteration in the French tariff, the anticipations of a similar step in America, the prospects of Australia, the home demand for railway and other purposes, the increased price of labour, and the advance in coals—although the supply of the latter has lately rather increased—are all urged as sufficient to justify the prevailing confidence. In copper, also, notwithstanding the price already reached, the tendency is still upward.

In the woollen districts, likewise, the revived activity of the past few weeks is still increasing, while from the Irish linen markets the report shows an improved demand for yarns, with a steady business in other departments, and the expectation of a good spring trade with the United States.

The departures for the Australian colonies from the port of London during the past week show a considerable decrease. They have comprised altogether five vessels, two to Sydney, of an aggregate burden of  $1,465$  tons, two to Port Philip, of an aggregate burden of  $1,337$  tons, and one to Swan River, of  $579$  tons. Their total capacity was consequently  $3,381$  tons. The rates of freight exhibit a further tendency to improvement.

In the general business of the port of London there has been increased activity during the past week; the arrivals from the Baltic with tallow and grain were very numerous, and there has been considerable activity also in the fruit trade. The number of ships reported inward was  $352$ , being  $104$  over the previous week. In the importations of grain a large increase is exhibited, the total quantity reported having been  $81,360$  quarters, including  $45,541$  quarters of wheat. Of sugar there were reported  $654$  hhds,  $190$  casks,  $624$  cases, and  $12,015$  bags; of coffee,  $608$  casks and  $1,026$  bags; of tea,  $100$  packages; of rice,  $682$  bags; and of hops,  $1,637$  bales. The number of vessels cleared outward was ninety-nine, being thirty-nine less than in the previous week. Of these ten were in ballast, and five, as above stated, for the Australian colonies.

## PROGRESS OF THE STOCKS DURING THE WEEK.

	Wed.	Thurs.	Friday.	Satur.	Mon.	Tues.
3 per Ct. Cons.	94 $\frac{1}{2}$	94 $\frac{1}{2}$	94 $\frac{1}{2}$	94 $\frac{1}{2}$	94 $\frac{1}{2}$	94 $\frac{1}{2}$
Cons. for Acct.	94 $\frac{1}{2}$	94 $\frac{1}{2}$	94 $\frac{1}{2}$	94 $\frac{1}{2}$	94 $\frac{1}{2}$	94 $\frac{1}{2}$
3 per Cent. Red.	93 $\frac{1}{2}$	93 $\frac{1}{2}$	93 $\frac{1}{2}$	93 $\frac{1}{2}$	93 $\frac{1}{2}$	93 $\frac{1}{2}$
New 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ per Ct.	96 $\frac{1}{2}$	97 $\frac{1}{2}$	97 $\frac{1}{2}$	98 $\frac{1}{2}$	97 $\frac{1}{2}$	97 $\frac{1}{2}$
Annuities...	—	Shut.	Shut.	250	—	—
India Stock ..	—	Shut.	Shut.	—	221 $\frac{1}{2}$	220 $\frac{1}{2}$
Bank Stock ..	219	219 $\frac{1}{2}$	220	—	—	—
Excheq. Bills	8 pm.	8 pm.	8 pm.	6 pm.	9 pm.	9 pm.
India Bonds ..	4 pm.	4 pm.	4 pm.	par	5 pm.	—
L. Annuities	5 5-16	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	5 5-16	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	—

## Markets.

### CORN-EXCHANGE, MARK-LANE.

MONDAY.—There was a short quantity of wheat by land-carriage samples from Essex, Kent, and Suffolk, a fair supply of barley, with a good delivery of beans and peas; the fresh arrivals of English, Scotch, and Irish oats have been moderate. Since Friday there have been considerable imports of wheat from the Baltic, with a moderately fair addition of foreign oats, and a few cargoes of barley, but very little flour. All the English wheat recently thrashed comes forward in miserable condition, and a good deal of to-day's supply was in that state; such was taken off slowly, at previous rates, but any samples tolerably dry met a ready sale, at fully as much money, with a healthier trade. There is now a good choice of Petersburg wheat on this market, and with a somewhat extensive a tendency of country buyers, sales were made more readily of all sorts of foreign; prices were quite as high generally, and in some instances is per qr. higher. At the recent decline in the value of flour there has been more disposition to purchase, and prices were well supported to-day. Choice malting barley was in good request at full prices, and other sorts were more easily sold at about the currency of this day's night. Malt was held at previous prices, but the large metropolitan brewers increase their stocks with great caution, and sales were only made to the ale brewers. Beans were in limited demand at barely the quotations of last week. Peas met a slow sale at rather lower rates for samples of inferior quality. Old oats were taken off by the consumers at full prices, new continue to be bought by the dealers reluctantly, but there was no further decline on the better qualities. Linseed and rapeseed were without change in value, each article tolerably firm.

### CURRENT PRICES OF GRAIN AND FLOUR.

	Per Imp. Qr.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Wheat, Essex, Kent, and Suffolk red, New	56	66	Old ..	60	69
Ditto ditto .. ditto white, ditto	58	65	Ditto ..	70	75
" Norfolk and Lincoln .. red, ditto	58	68	White ..	65	78
" Cambridgeshire .. ditto, ditto	50	63	Ditto ..	54	61
" Irish .. .. ditto, ditto	0	0	Ditto ..	0	0
Rye, old .. .. 0	0	New ..	34	38	40
Barley, grinding ..	28	31	Distilling ..	30	33
Malt, brown .. .. 48	53	Pale ..	59	61	Ware ..
Beans, tick new & old	42	51	Harrow ..	45	53
" Long-pods ..	56	60	Windsors ..	56	64
Peas, grey .. .. 38	41	Maple ..	41	44	White ..
Oats, Lincolnshire and Yorkshire, feed	23	26	Poland ..	27	29
" Scotch (Angus) ..	24	27	Potato ..	28	31
Irish, white .. ..	24	28	Black ..	22	27
Per 280 lb.	65	70	Norfolk and Stockton ..	63	65
Town-made Flour ..	55	60	Irish ..	—	0
Essex and Kent ..	55	60	Irish ..	—	0

### IMPERIAL AVERAGES.

FOR THE LAST SIX WEEKS.

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Rye.	Beans.	Peas.
WEEK ENDING:—	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Oct. 29 .. ..	69 1	40 9	24 8	40 10	48 4	51 10
Nov. 5 .. ..	71 9	41 3	25 5	43 0	48 10	53 3
Nov. 12 .. ..	73 7	42 2	25 5	42 7	49 9	56 7
Nov. 19 .. ..	72 7	42 3	26 0	43 11	52 6	56 7
Nov. 26 .. ..	72 0	41 9	26 0	43 7	50 11	54 9
Dec. 3 .. ..	72 7	40 9	26 3	43 5	52 0	53 5
Six weeks ..	71 11	41 0	25 8	42 11	50 5	54 8
Last year ..	40 0	30 1	14 4	27 9	35 3	32 7
Duties .. ..	1 0	1 0	1 0	1 0	1 0	1 0

### COMPARATIVE PRICES AND QUANTITIES OF GRAIN.

	AVERAGES FROM LAST FRIDAY EVENING'S GAZETTE.	AVERAGES FROM THE CORRESPONDING GAZETTE IN 1852.
	Qrs. s. d.	Qrs. s. d.
Wheat .. ..	73,714 72 7	Wheat .. .. 110,791 41 0
Barley .. ..	106,625 43 9	Barley .. .. 114,979 30 0
Oats .. ..	23,002 26 3	Oats .. .. 22,690 18 0
Rye .. ..	1,7 43 5	Rye .. .. 85 30 01
Beans .. ..	4,308 52 0	Beans .. .. 5,610 35 5
Peas .. ..	2,089 53 5	Peas .. .. 3,372 32 8



## PRICE OF BREAD.

The prices of wheaten bread in the metropolis are from 10½d to 11d; of household ditto, 8½d to 10d per 4lb loaf.

## PRICE OF SEEDS, &amp;c.

MONDAY.—The transactions in the seed market were not extensive. Red clover may be quoted about the same as before, but the demand not lively; white scarce, and its value well supported. Linseed, rapeseed, and cakes of both sorts, were quite as dear as before.

s. d. s. d.	s. d. s. d.
Turnip, white, new, per bush, 18 0 21 0	Clover, Red Eng. ewt 44 0 64 1
Do Swede, 19 0 21 0	— White, 52 0 65 0
Mustard, Brown, old 10 0 13 0	— Foreign Red, 42 0 62 5
— White new, 14 0 16 0	— White, 50 0 64 2
Tares new winter, 7 6 8 0	Trefoil, 17 0 22 0
Spring, 0 0 0 0	Caraway, 42 0 48 0
Canary new, per qr, 60 0 65 0	Coriander old, 10 0 15 0
Cinque Foie, 36 0 38 0	Linseed, Crushing, 52 0 56 0
Rye Grass, 28 0 35 0	— Sowing, 54 0 60 0
Ditto Italian, 34 0 36 0	LINSEED CAKES.
Rape Cakes, per ton 67 0s 6d 10s	English, per ton 91 0s 11 0s
Rapeseed, per last 30f 0s 34f 0s	Foreign, per ton 91 0s 11 0s

## SMITHFIELD MARKET.

MONDAY.—Notwithstanding the large number of beasts in the market, the demand for all breeds, owing to the favourable state of the weather for slaughtering, and the large attendance of butchers, was steady, at an advance on the prices obtained on Monday last of 2d per 8 lbs. A few Scots realised 5s per 8 lbs; but the top general figure for beef was 4s 6d per 8 lbs. From the northern grazing districts about 2,500 beasts came to hand. The arrival from the westward amounted to 1,400 head, from Norfolk and other parts of England 750 do, and from Scotland 540 Scots. The supply of sheep was seasonably good. For most breeds we had a steady though by no means brisk inquiry, at full quotations. The best old Downs were worth 5s 2d per 8 lbs. There was less activity in the veal trade than on Friday. However, the prices of Monday last were maintained. About an average business was transacted in pigs, at last week's currency.

s. d. s. d.	s. d. s. d.
Inf. coarse beasts, 3 2 to 3 4	Pr. coarse woolled 4 6 to 4 10
Second quality, 3 6 to 3 10	Prime Southdown 5 0 to 5 2
Prime large oxen, 4 0 to 4 6	Lge. coarse calves 4 0 to 4 6
Prime Scots, &c., 4 8 to 4 10	Prime small, 4 8 to 5 0
Coarse inf. sheep, 3 0 to 3 4	Large hogs, 3 4 to 4 0
Second quality, 3 6 to 4 4	Neat sm. porkers 4 2 to 4 10
Suckling calves, 2s to 2s 6d; Quarter-old store-pigs, 2s to 2s 6d each.	

## NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL MARKETS.

MONDAY.—Since our last report, the arrivals of country-killed meat have been on an extensive scale. To-day the supply on offer slaughtered in the metropolis was large, and a good business was doing at full quotations.

Per 4lb by the carcass.	Per 4lb by the carcass.
Inferior beef, 3s 0d to 3s 2d	Inf. mutton, 3s 2d to 3s 4d
Middling ditto, 3s 4d to 3s 6d	Middling ditto, 3s 6d to 3s 8d
Prime large do., 3s 8d to 3s 10d	Prime ditto, 4s 4d to 4s 8d
Do. small do., 4s 0d to 4s 2d	Veal, 4s 2d to 5s 2d
Large pork, 3s 4d to 4s 0d	Small pork, 4s 2d to 5s 0d

## PROVISION MARKET.

MONDAY.—The arrivals last week from Ireland were 12,345 firkins butter, and 1,642 bales bacon, and from foreign ports 11,191 casks butter, and 414 bales bacon. We have to notice another quiet week in the Irish butter market, and the business transacted was to a moderate extent. Holders, however, do not press sales. The accounts from the Irish markets being stiff, quotations remain as on this day se'nlight. Foreign is unchanged in value or demand. The bacon market ruled steady in the early part of the week, and some sales of prime Waterford were made at 5s 6d on board, for shipment. Towards the close, there was rather more disposition on the part of the dealers to purchase, and the market ended firm.

## SUGAR, COFFEE, COCOA, SPICE.

SUGAR.		s. d.	s. d.	COCOA.		s. d.	s. d.
Lumps (brown)	. 43	0	43	6	Trinidad	. . . 31	0 38 0
Grocery	. . . 43	6	47	0	Grenada	. . . 24	0 36 0
Molasses	. . . 17	0	18	0	St Lucia	. . . 28	0 33 0
Jamaica (fine)	. 17	6	18	6	Bahia	. . . 27	0 0 0
Demerara (fine)	. 17	0	18	0			
COFFEE.		s. d.	s. d.	SPICES.		s. d.	s. d.
Jamaica	. . . 68	0	98	0	Cinnamon(per lb)	1 0	2 3
Low Middling	. 54	0	67	0	Cloves(Amboyna)	0 7	0 8
Ordinary	. . . 44	0	46	6	Ditto (Bourbon)	0 6	0 6
Demerara and Ber-					Mace	. . . 2	4 3 2
bice Good Mid.	. 62	0	70	0	Nutmegs	. . . 2	0 4 10
Good and fine ord.	. 45	6	55	0	Pepper(Cayenne)	0 8	1 6
Ord and Broken	. 37	0	46	0	Pimento (Jam)	0 6	0 6
Dominica, Mid.	. 54	0	60	0	Ginger (J.) white	. 40	0 85 0
Gd. ord to low mid	. 47	0	53	0	Flue large	. . . 95	0 230 0
St. Domingo	. . . 42	0	46	0	Barbadoes	. . . 40	0 400 0
Mocha	. . . 60	0	95	0	East India	. . . 24	0 55 0

## COLONIAL MARKETS.—TUESDAY, Dec. 13.

SUGAR.—The public sales have been very large, and gone off steadily. Refining qualities of West India brought full prices, and other descriptions about last week's currency. 1,100 hhds of West India sold, including 750 hhds in public sale, half Barbadoes, which sold without spirit, at 32s 6d to 34s 6d; half St. Lucia, which sold steadily at 30s 6d to 37s 6d. 4,000 bags of Mauritius were offered and all found buyers. Brown, 27s to 31s 6d; yellow, 32s 6d to 38s. 1,500 bags Bengal were offered, a part bought in the remainder sold, 31s 6d to 37s 6d. 4,000 bags Penang were also brought forward, and all sold at 28s to 34s 6d. The refined market quoted the same price as last week. Brown lumps, 43s 6d; grocery, 44s to 48s.

COFFEE.—350 casks plantation Ceylon were offered in public sale, and all sold at fully previous rates, 53s to 62s 6d. About 1,000 bags common native Ceylon sold at 47s to 47s 6d. 50 cases Tellicherry, bought in, at 54s to 56s.

TEA.—20,000 packages were brought forward in public sale, chiefly of mixed inferior descriptions, the bulk was bought in, about 2,000 sold; general quotations are unaltered. Common congou quoted at 1s 2½d to 1s 3d, partly nominal.

RICE.—This article remains firm, about 4,000 bags Bengal, reported sold at full prices.

CANEA LIGNEA.—150 chests sold freely in public sale at full prices, 6d 1½d to 6d 19s.

COCHINEAL.—230 bags were offered, and about one-third sold without spirit at rather easier prices. Honduras silver, 3s 9d to 4s 11d.

COTTON.—About 350 bales sold at previous rates.

TALLOW.—Remains quoted firm at 55s 9d on the spot, 56s to 56s 6d January to March delivery.

## POULTRY.

s. d. s. d.	s. d. s. d.
Turkeys, 4 0 9 0	Grouse (each), 2 3 2 6
Geese, 5 0 6 6	Surrey Fowls (cpl), 5 0 9 0
Ducks, 1 9 2 9	Surrey Chickens, 3 0 5 0
Tame Rabbits, 1 3 1 9	Barndoor Fowls, 3 0 5 0
Wild, 0 6 0 10	Eggs, Eng. (120), 9 0 10 0
Pigeons, 0 6 0 8	Eggs, French, 7 0 8 0

## BOROUGH AND SPITALFIELDS POTATO MARKETS.

MONDAY.—During the past week the arrivals, both coastwise and by rail, have been very limited, which enabled salesmen to effect a clearance of what were left on hand, at a slight advance on last week's prices; but a very considerable fleet arrived on Saturday, both coastwise, from the Rhine, Sweden, and Denmark. The following are the quotations: York Regents, 110s to 140s; East Lothian, 100s to 130s; Forfarshire, 100s to 115s; Perthshire, 90s to 110s; Fifeshire, 90s to 110s; Reds and Cups, 90s to 100s; Rhenish Whites, 65s to 95s.

## BOROUGH HOP MARKET.

MONDAY.—We cannot report any change in the hop market, the dullness of which continues unabated. In the absence of demand, a reduction in prices must be submitted to, in order to effect sales.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
New Mid and East Kent pockets	14 0 to 18 0	
Weald of Kents	10 10 to 12 12	
Sussex	10 0 to 12 0	

## LONDON WOOL MARKET.

MONDAY.—Fine English wools, the quantity of which on offer is limited, are very firm, and in some few instances rather more money has been obtained for them. Low and inferior qualities are flat, yet holders are firm, and the quotations are well supported. A few parcels have changed hands for shipment to Belgium. There is more doing in Scotch wools, and rates are much better supported. In foreign, the lowest point in price has been reached, and both manufacturers and dealers buy with more confidence. The imports last week were 943 bales, of which 472 were from Moreton Bay, 226 from Bombay, 201 from the Mauritius, and the rest from Germany, &c.

## THE TALLOW TRADE.

MONDAY.—About an average business is doing in our market at about last week's prices. P.Y.C. on the spot, 55s 9d to 56s, and for the spring 55s 3d per cwt. Town tallow, 55s 6d net cash.

## PARTICULARS.

	1849.	1850.	1851.	1852.	1853.
Casks.	Casks.	Casks.	Casks.	Casks.	Casks.
Stock	48795	56152	68451	48819	42140
Price of Yellow Candle	38s 6d	37s 0d	36s 9d	46s 0d	53s 9d
Delivery last Week	2504	2254	3156	3329	1347
Ditto from the 1st of June	82701	51733	57455	57118	58067
Arrived last Week	2544	1743	290	1926	11165
Ditto from the 1st of June	76023	82246	89372	65309	76900
Price of Town Tallow	42s 0d	39s 6d	39s 6d	49s 3d	58s 0d

## The Gazette.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9.  
BANKRUPTS.

JAMES SADLER, Vere-street, Clare-market, tallow chandler. Sol., Mr. Kinsey, Bloomsbury-square.

THOMAS SHENTON, Bethnal-green-road, grocer. Sol., Messrs. Hill and Matthews, St. Mary-axe.

PHILIP OLIVER, Edward-square, Brompton, and Lianbadarn-fawr, dealer in mining shares. Sol., Mr. Heath, Artillery-place West, Finsbury.

JOHN DELANEY, Mark-lane, wine merchants. Sol., Messrs. Pagden and Hodgkinson, Mark-lane.

FRANCIS SALTER, York-place and Tredegar-square, Mile-end, doctor of medicine. Sol., Messrs. Blake and Snow, College-hill.

SAMUEL BARTHOLOMEW, Birmingham, licensed victualler. Sol., Mr. Standbridge, Birmingham.

CHARLES SAMUEL TWIGG, Cardiff, brick maker. Sol., Messrs. Bevan and Goring, Bristol.

JOHN LOWTHER WARD, Burnley, Lancashire, cotton spinner. Sol., Messrs. Cooper and Son, Manchester.

GEORGE ALCOCK, Manchester, draper. Sol., Messrs. Sole, Turner, and Turner, Aldermanbury.

## DIVIDENDS.

Jan. 5, W. Jolly, Bishop Stortford, carrier—Jan. 3, W. J. Cockerill, Poultry, music seller—Jan. 3, T. Eldridge, Upper North-place, Gray's-inn-road, coach builder—Dec. 20, M. T. S. Welsh, Romford, linen-draper—Dec. 19, R. Pimm, Stratford-upon-Avon, corn dealer—Jan. 10, J. Johnson, Wakefield, cabinet maker—Jan. 9, S. and W. Hartley, Tadcaster, Yorkshire, common brewers.

## PARTNERSHIPS DISSOLVED.

T. and J. Faulconer, Hurstmonceux, farmers—G. Philo and E. B. Robinson, High-street, Poplar, machine sawyers—J. Rickett and A. Rust, High-street, Islington, hosiers—Wilkin and Turner, Hove, Sussex, linen-draper—W. Richardson and Sons, Lilley-hill, Whitefield, and Manchester, fancy drill manufacturers; as far as regards E. Richardson—Gordon and Brown, surgeons—H. Freeman and W. Davies, St. John's-lane, Clerkenwell, embossers—W. and N. Maude, Mottram-in-Longendale, Cheshire, woollen manufacturers—J. E. Shearman, J. E. Baller, D. Brandon, and F. Slater, Ruperra and Machen Collieries, Ponty Pridd, Glamorganshire, and Machen, Monmouthshire—Lambert and Clark, Manchester, painters—T. Lamb and A. Magraw, Liverpool, joiners—Cooper and Smith, Manchester, ironmongers—D. and J. Shaw, Huddersfield, woollen manufacturers—J. Boorman, T. Blake, J. Holmes, and T. T. Blake, Dymchurch, Kent, farmers; as far as regards J. Boorman and T. Blake—A. and S. Frankau, Clement's-lane, Lombard-street, foreign goods importers—Chadwick Brothers, Coventry and Bowling-green-lane, Clerkenwell, watch jewellers—Price and Aldred, Rumworth, Lancashire, coal merchants—T. and J. Littlewood, Atherton, Lancashire, wire-drawers—T. Crampton and J. Moore, Sheffield, cabinetmakers—Saunders and Gollop, Southampton, ironmongers—J. Brown and E. Buckell, Oxford-street, drapers—Kaye and Simister, Manchester, commission agents.

## TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13.

## BANKRUPTS.

JAMES RICHARDSON, JOHN SANDERS WICKS, and HENRY SMITH, Upper Queen's-buildings, Brompton, upholsterers. Sol., Mr. Pain, Gresham-street.

JACOB CONNOP, New Finchley-road, St. John's-wood, bill-broker. Sol., Mr. Hara, South-square, Gray's-inn.

CHRISTIAN DRUKE, Garlic-hill, drysalter. Sol., Mr. Spiller, South-place, Finsbury.

SAMUEL BARNETT, Houndsditch, Birmingham, and Sheffield, warehouseman. Sol., Mr. Jones, Quality-court, Chancery-lane.

WILLIAM HOLME, Manchester, cotton manufacturer. Sol., Messrs. Whitworth, Manchester.

## DIVIDENDS.

Jan. 9, J. Robins and C. Williams, London-wall, carriers—Jan. 9, V. Elkins, Southampton-place, Euston-square, and High-street, Marylebone, coachmakers—Jan. 9, J. Dickson, Basishaw-chambers, Basinghall-street, auctioneers—Jan. 7, E. Progers, Sudlow, Salop, banker—Jan. 11, W. Ridge, Exeter, tailors—Jan. 20, J. Williams, Lower Wootkey-mills, Somersetshire, paper maker—Jan. 14, J. Earp, Uttoxeter, Staffordshire, brewer—Jan. 9, R. Lathbury, Burton-upon-Trent, grocer.

## PARTNERSHIPS DISSOLVED.

W. A. Hambley and W. Lake, Birmingham, drapers—J. Taylor and W. Allen, Birmingham, engineers—Thompson and Williams, Epping, brewers—Davis, Freeman, and Co., Manchester, linen-merchants—Smith, Moore, and Sons, Manchester, engineers; as far as regards W. Moore, jun., and J. Moore—E. and W. Belton, Dudley, hay dealers—L. Harlow and Co., Radford, Nottinghamshire, general machinists; as far as L. Harlow—Carne, Poulson, and Co., Newton-linavady, Londonderry, whisky distillers—J. Steel and J. Hood, Liverpool, and Ballinasloe, grain merchants—Greenall and Marston, Birmingham, maltsters—Parkin and Watson, Seaham Harbour, and Sunderland, shipbrokers—W. Cooper and Co., Stayley-lane, near Mottram-in-Longendale, Cheshire, bleachers—Torret and Greenlees, Broad-street, Cheapside, warehousemen—J. Tibbitts, J. and S. Mills, and T. Tibbitts, Walsall, lock manufacturers; as far as regards J. Tibbitts—Swires and Sellers, Cleckheaton, Yorkshire, maltsters—M. Bottomley and Sons, Shelf, and Bradford, Yorkshire, stuff manufacturers; as far as regards M. Bottomley, jun.—Redfern and Girdham, Broad-street, commission agents—Broadhead and Atkin, Sheffield, manufacturers of silver plated goods—Phoenix Foundry Company, Lancaster—Pizzie and Ferguson, Haverhill, Suffolk, and Noble-street, Foster-lane, carpet manufacturers—M. S. R., and A. L. Wheeler, Plymouth, drapers—C. Mullins and C. W. Corke, Chew Magna, Somersetshire, attorneys at law—Flackett, Chetham, and Toft, Longton, Staffordshire Pottery, China manufacturers; as far as regards J. Chetham—Spence and Leslie, Edinburgh, drapers.

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ARTHUR HALL, VIRTUE, and Co., 25, Paternoster-row.

A superficial survey of it ["A Guide to Family Devotion"] is sufficient to manifest that its plan is the most complete of any with which I am acquainted, embracing everything which the service of the family altar requires, or admits of; while its execution is also such as to entitle it to commendation, and secure for it the circulation and use which it deserves.

I consider it a vast advantage to persons who begin house-keeping, if unaccustomed to extemporaneous prayer, to have such a help to devotion as your work affords. Many, especially females, have felt considerable difficulty in conducting family worship, for want of a selection of Scriptures adapted to family reading; this difficulty your work meets, and cannot but be appreciated by a large class of the Christian community. The work appears to me to be executed devotionally, which, in my opinion, is a strong recommendation to its excellence. With many sincere wishes for its success.

Surry Chapel House. *J. Thorne*

On examination, I am much pleased with it ["A Guide to Family Devotion,"] and feel, when I am called to leave my family, that I leave for its use a good substitute behind me.

Wright House. *J. Birney*

The evangelical strain of the prayers gives them an advantage over most other forms which have been published for families: I mean not only the savour of evangelical feeling and motive with which they are imbued, but the frequent addresses which are intermingled to each Divine Person of the Triune Jehovah. I trust that your labours will lead many families to a practical use and enjoyment of the glorious privileges of the Gospel.

*Isaac Pratt*

Late Vicar of St. Stephen's, Coleman-street.

I feel it right to express my opinion that the plan is excellent, and that the execution of the plan is judicious, and well adapted to its purpose, as an aid to the great duty and blessing of family, conjugal, and secret worship.

Honwriton. *Mrs. Smith*



## TO DR. CAMPBELL.

REVEREND SIR,—As a public man, you are accustomed to pass your opinions pretty freely on the actions of men: allow me to notice your conduct at the Manchester Conference. It appears the Rev. Mr. Allen read a paper he had written, in which he remarked on the demoralizing effects of theatres on young men, and also asserted that 100,000 young men were subjected to indescribable tyranny by professedly Christian masters. The Rev. Mr. Palmer, and others, spoke upon the topics brought forward by Mr. Allen. Mr. Palmer expressed himself strongly against theatres; but said, "so long as pastors of Independent churches were found patronizing theatres in London, so long would such papers as Mr. Allen's be read in vain. It was a fact that Christian ministers belonging to the Independent denomination in London went to theatres—that so long as these things continued, it was in vain to lecture young men about theatres, and other objectionable places of amusement." This, no doubt, was spoken from a good motive, in the warmth of his speech, on behalf of young men—perhaps somewhat imprudently. For my part, I cannot see anything personal in it, nor anything reflecting on the denomination as a body. The Rev. Mr. Binney, the next speaker, makes no allusion to it. But you, Sir, buckled on the armour, and said, "I will not stand here as a London minister and hear in silence those broad, sweeping, calumnious charges to which Mr. Palmer has given utterance. I know the London ministers well, and I say these charges are false. We do not come here and say things which we fear to say to our people in London. I know the characters of our leading men, with their wives and daughters, and I repeat that the charges which are brought against them of going to theatres themselves, or winking at such conduct in others, is altogether false. I stand here to vindicate outraged innocence. Gentlemen must put a bridle on their tongues when they come here to talk of London ministers. There is not a more godly, exemplary, and humble class of pastors in the realm than our London pastors."

I cannot understand how you, Sir, could answer with such confidence for every minister in London. Your conduct appears to me like knocking a fly off your brother's head with a sledge hammer. Whence come wars and fightings? Can you stand in the pulpit after this and denounce duels, and fighting, and pot-house brawls? Could any man of spirit, without a great deal of the grace of God, have the lie given to him in public without serious consequence? "Greater is he that ruleth his spirit than he that taketh a city." It appears, Sir, you got up in haste, and made very false accusations against Mr. Palmer. If the report in the *Banner* and *Patriot* be true, Mr. Palmer made no accusation whatever against your leading men, or their wives and daughters. But Burns blew so strong in you, that he conjured up in your brain a Utopian enemy for you to fight with. I look upon your severe attack on Mr. Palmer as highly censurable, and such as would be denounced in any society; and I am astonished any Christian men could be found to cheer such an onslaught, amongst a society professedly convened to propagate the gospel of peace, the high and sublime moral principles of Christianity. Your Divine Master said, "If ye are reviled, revile not again." Mr. Palmer has carried this out to the letter. Suppose, Sir, you had heard that some of your members were guilty of the same thing, and you denounced it from the pulpit, or at the church-meeting, in the same manner as Mr. Palmer did, and some of your deacons or leading men got up and treated you the same way—how should you like it? Mr. Palmer might have cut right and left with a two-edged sword at the laity, and you would have highly approved of it, as you did of the sweeping and severe language of Mr. Allen, and recommended it to be printed, published, and circulated. You were pleased so that the sacred cloth was not touched. What a Babel you would have had, if Mr. S. Morley and Mr. Bateman, who objected to the sweeping and bold accusation of Mr. Allen against their class, had got up and denounced it in language and manner like yourself. Look at the faithful liberty Mr. Binney took with your order as a body; but nobody dared take him down. Giants don't like to match themselves against giants. Dr. Halley said, "It is not I!" and you might have answered Mr. Palmer the same; but not for every London minister. I believe Mr. Palmer has done great service to religion in bringing it forward—*for* balls, and such like things, are becoming fashionable amongst Dissenters; and I have heard, and I believe it too, that Dissenting ministers have preached sermons in favour of opening the Crystal Palace on Sundays, which would soon lower our Sabbaths to the Sabbath of the Roman Catholics. You introduce Mr. Palmer's letter in the *Banner* by saying you have no more to say of him, *his own letter meets the case to the full*. Ask you, why then that long, insidious article against him in the *Banner*, following his very Christian-like letter? Mr. Palmer, on the spot, was unprecedentedly called upon at once to give up the names—supposing Mr. Allen and Mr. Binney had been called upon to do the same, what pretty figures they would have cut! Mr. Allen, with his hundred thousand young men held in indescribable tyranny and bondage by masters, could he have proved one in a thousand? What would Mr. Binney have answered, had it been demanded of him to whom he had referred in his speech? (No doubt he would have answered to this effect: "What do you mean by this strange interrogative? I threw out hints to remedy an evil, not to accuse my brethren.") He said in his speech, "We, as a body, are very deficient in the spirit of devotional reverence in ordination services. My heart has often been torn at an ordination. The ministers seem to think they had nothing to do with the matter of worship. Whenever there is a little bit of a hymn sung, they seem to think it quite another part of the service, and out they go into the vestry for a bit of cake, half a glass of wine, or perhaps a whole glass; and sometimes this all is exhibited within sight of the congregation. They seem to have no respect to the deep devotion which characterises the service, and no regard to the example they set to the people; but they seem to imagine that the whole of the devotional service may be trampled under foot." Now, what is the report of the judges who presided on this simultaneous and strange trial?—That Mr. Palmer could name but one London pastor that patronized theatres, and that upon hearsay evidence, which we have no means of investigating. The only other case was not that of a London minister, but one resident in the country, and referring to one act only, and that under such peculiar circumstances as greatly to modify any measure of censure which we otherwise might attach to it, which circumstances were unknown to Mr. Palmer. So here is one true case, with palliating circumstances, admitted to be unknown to Mr. Palmer. I suppose by this the minister was challenged with it, and made the best excuse he could. What do the judges mean by a minister resident in the country? A minister resident in the country, and a country minister, are two things. I am a London tradesman, but I do not reside in London. The first case was by hearsay evidence. Pray what do we know of the common news of the day but by hearsay evidence? If ministers are not to denounce the vices of their hearers without speaking from ocular demonstration, and giving proof, they must shut their lips, or they would make plenty of practice for forensic eloquence. I believe, Sir, you are a great, a learned, clever, and godly man; but "you can aspire to flights true critics dare not mend." Great learning and great abilities do not always insure prudence. I have, before now, as I think, seen some rash and imprudent remarks made by you in the *Banner*. I fear you like a mark to shoot at; but sometimes you look at one thing, and take aim at another. I reverse the order of the Christian ministry—

"But if eccentric they forsake their sphere,  
Prodigious, ominous, and viewed with fear."

If Mr. Palmer committed an error without malice prepense, why should he be hunted down like a partridge on the mountains? If he is a wolf in sheep's clothing, take off his wool and spare not. If not, he has made ample reparation. He is now condemned for revealing confidential talk after you had forced it out by hydraulic pressure. What do you mean by accredited minister? The *Patriot* reveals the high extenuating circumstances; forsooth, the minister went with his sister instead of setting her a better example. Very excusable indeed! Most people go with their sisters, or brothers, or some other relations. I know what it is to mourn over a hasty temper, but it does not appear you have done so in this case, or you could not have written as you have done after receiving Mr. Palmer's letter.

With all deference to your high moral character and great abilities, I subscribe myself,

Your most obedient servant,  
ROBERT S. DIXON.

THE Rev. ROBERT AINSLIE'S  
RESIGNATION of his MEMBERSHIP of the CONGRE-  
GATIONAL BOARD.

## To the Congregational Board of Ministers.

REVEREND SIRS,—I have been a member of your fellowship for nearly twenty years. During that period, until the unhappy case of Mr. Davies was brought before you, I have never to my knowledge given any offence to any member of the Board, nor have I had cause to be offended. I thank you for the respect and courtesy with which you have at all times treated me, until I undertook the "Defence of the Innocent."

On Mr. Davies' case I have differed in opinion, and do differ, from many of my Brethren. I regret the necessity of such difference, but I have never repented of the course I have taken.

When the Committee appointed by the Board to examine into Mr. Davies' case refused the production of the evidence on which they (a divided committee) came to their decision, and the Board recorded its verdict against Mr. Davies on the faith of that divided Committee, and in ignorance of the evidence, I felt that it was so unjust, unconstitutional, and opposed to the usages of civil and political society, that I could no longer, with proper self-respect, continue to be a member of a fellowship that gave its sanction to such a dangerous and un-English procedure. I announced this at a meeting of the Board, held in the Library, on the 2nd of July, 1852, and was in the act of leaving the meeting to write at the earliest opportunity my resignation of membership. Dr. Tidman, however, called me back, that he might have a committee appointed on what I had said about himself. I pass over the intervening narrative (the fullest particulars are recorded in the "Defence of the Innocent," page 107, &c.), and state, that though I have been anxious to resign, I did not feel at liberty to do so until the last meeting of the Board. What I saw and heard at that meeting determined me to resign immediately. The same evening I wrote to one member of the Board, and informed him of my decision; and the next morning I wrote to another member, conveying to him the information. At an interview with the latter gentleman, a few days afterwards, he kindly asked me to take no action until I heard from him again. Since hearing from him, I have waited only for the approach of your meeting, to write and forward my resignation.

Bear with me while, in the briefest and most respectful manner, I refer to two topics. First, my resistance when you commanded me to leave the Library, at the two last sittings of the Board.

As to my being present at the first meeting, when the effort was made to expel me, and failed (by a majority of 6 to 16 supporting the previous question). It is now the general opinion that I had a right to be present. Moreover, the unanimous invitation of the Board (during that meeting) for me to be present, settles the matter.

As to the second meeting. Had I forced myself upon you under what was termed "the common law of suspension," which is in force while any matter is *sub-judice*, I should have done wrong. But to have recognised and sanctioned a power you do not possess, through fear of your frown and displeasure, is not in my nature, nor does it accord with my views of liberty and justice. In fact, as to this matter, the "common law of suspension" was never employed. I was called upon to retract what I had said about Dr. Tidman. I offered to prove the truth of it before the Board, and have fully established what I said, and much more, in Defence of the Innocent. Moreover, I had several documents with me on the former of the two evenings which would have settled immediately the question of veracity betwixt myself and the authors of the "Brief Statement." But their production was declined. Therefore, because I could not and would not violate truth, with the private and published proofs of my accuracy before my eyes, my attendance was "dispensed" with by a vote of 20 to 12, "until he complies with the request of his brethren." For this act you have neither law, nor precedent. The law by which the separation of any member from the Board is determined is thus worded:—"That no member shall be excluded but by the votes of three-fourths of the members present at a meeting specially convened." If you could have commanded the requisite number for my expulsion, you could have excluded me; but the power you assumed was an usurpation, to which your general principles, and the constitution and laws of the Board, gave no sanction. For me, therefore, to have submitted to such an illegal and tyrannical act, would have brought on me an amount of self-reproach more terrible to bear than the frown of any ecclesiastical body upon earth. I intended nothing disrespectful to the Board on either occasion. I paid homage to your laws, and I resisted their infringement, both for the maintenance of my own rights and as an example to any gentleman in future times who may be similarly treated.

The second topic is to you, as a Board, of great importance. You are inextricably mixed up with the Mission-house charges against Mr. Davies. On Wednesday last, December 7, 1853, a member of your Board published an article in the *British Banner*, headed "Collusion and Conspiracy Extraordinary." Of this article Dr. Campbell is the avowed author. Unless I am mistaken, the article headed "Law, Law, Law," and signed "Scrutator," is the production of another member of your Board, the Rev. Ebenezer Prout, one of the secretaries of the London Missionary Society. The internal evidence has satisfied me, and others, that he is the author of it, but should I be in error, I apologize to that gentleman for suspecting him of writing that article. Should it be true that he is the author, then we have, to use Dr. Campbell's words, "a gentleman in a mask." We have a secretary of the Society anonymously writing against an individual who has attached his name to the document to which "Scrutator" replies. If, instead of "Scrutator," it should prove to be correct to write Ebenezer Prout, the article will be re-perused with a strong Mission-house light upon it.

As a member of your Board (and I am one, until you accept my resignation) I complain that Dr. Campbell and Mr. Prout have, in the last number of the *British Banner*, acted in such a manner that you are, as a Board, bound immediately to interfere. You have, I doubt not, read the articles, and vividly remember the charges brought against Mr. Davies and myself. The following statements and disclosures, it is possible, may awaken some surprise; but that ought only to quicken your determination to do, and to judge justly. Dr. Campbell and Mr. Prout bring against Mr. Davies the following charges:—

First. That he (Mr. Davies) "did not stay or sleep at his (Mr. Beale's) house" from November 1st, to the morning of November 4th, 1845. In reply, Mr. Davies will make oath that he did stay and sleep at Mr. Beale's house during the time mentioned. He distinctly recollects the Saturday evening—the minister who was present—the conversation that took place on Teetotalism—the conversation with Mr. Beale on the Sunday morning on the way from his house to the chapel—his return from chapel on the Sunday evening, when he found Mr. Beale sitting alone—and, also, what he (Mr. Davies) had for supper; and other incidents which he is prepared to mention at the proper time.

Second. Mr. Davies is charged with "fabricating" the document signed by Mr. Beale. Dr. Campbell's words are, "the infamous process of its fabrication is fully disclosed, and it is such a compound of folly and iniquity, of blank stupidity and daring impudence, as could not be credited were it not placed beyond the possibility of doubt."

In reply, Mr. Davies and Mrs. Davies (for she was present while Mr. Beale drew up the document) are prepared to make oath that Mr. Davies did not dictate nor write the document signed by Mr. Beale.

Third. Dr. Campbell says that on the day the declaration was signed, Mr. and Mrs. Beale returned to Wellingborough from a distant visit, &c., &c. The facts are, that Mr. and Mrs. Beale returned about seven o'clock in the evening; and the document was not written till about eleven o'clock the next day.

Fourth. Dr. Campbell charges Mr. Davies with having drawn up the paper signed by the post-mistress, and that she was "made" to sign it.

In reply, Mr. Davies is prepared to make oath that he neither dictated nor wrote the document signed by the post-mistress; that he was never in the Post-office; that he did not call upon the post-mistress; that he has never spoken to her, nor has he ever seen her.

Fifth. He is charged by Dr. Campbell with having slept at the house of Mr. Keep. In reply, he is prepared on oath to state that,

to the best of his knowledge, he has never even seen Mr. Keep's house, nor Mr. Keep, nor Mrs. Keep.

Sixth. It is alleged that a lady staying with Mr. Keep learned from Mr. Davies that his wife "came from Leicester." If by this is meant that she was a native of Leicester, it is untrue. She was born at Mablethorpe, near Rotherham, as Dr. Bennett, Dr. Stowell, and others can testify, and during the first 34 years of her life never even visited Leicester. The same lady, it is said, "was 'curious to learn her (Mrs. Davies') maiden name, but Mr. Davies seemed unwilling to give it." Mr. Davies affirms that such an incident never occurred at Wellingborough, nor at any other place.

Seventh. Dr. Campbell says that the testimony of the post-mistress was laid before the Committee of the Congregational Board who sat on Mr. Davies' case; and that that Committee attached to it but little importance. Let us see if this be true. The Committee sat for the first time on the 4th of June, and made its report to the Board June 29th, 1852. The post-mistress's document was not signed until August 10th, 1852, six weeks after the Committee had made its report; and yet Dr. Campbell distinctly states, that it was before that Committee, and also lutesly gives their judgment upon it! Where could he have got it? Who "fabricated" it?

Eighth. Mrs. Davies (to whom Mr. Davies regularly gave an account of his visits to different towns, and the families in which he sojourned) and Mr. Davies declare that they never heard of the name of "Keep" at Wellingborough until it was mentioned in Mr. Beale's letter.

Ninth. Mr. Davies declares that he never was at Wellingborough before November, 1845, nor since, until he went there with Mrs. Davies, in August, 1852, to call on Mr. Beale. That he had no name associated with Wellingborough but that of Mr. Beale—that it would have been as easy for him to have gone to Mr. or Mrs. Keep, had he known them, as to Mr. Beale—that he would have had an equal claim on Mrs. Keep for her recollections of his visit as he had on Mr. Beale, and that he could not possibly have had any reason to have called on Mr. Beale instead of on Mr. Keep. Moreover, after a lapse of seven years, when he went into the bedroom at Mr. Beale's, he distinctly recognised it as the room in which he had slept in 1845.

Tenth. As for Mrs. Keep, whom I have this day heard is an elderly lady of great respectability, it is clearly a case of mistaken identity.

But do you ask me to account for the extraordinary statements contained in the *Banner* of December 7th? I will do so.

It is another painful illustration of Mission-house doings. Mr. Beale, the same person who is represented as saying what is contained in the *Banner*, has written to me unexpectedly, and unsolicited on my part, so recently as November 19th, 1852. And, after referring to Mr. Prout and Mr. Thomas having called upon him, he proceeds to tell me that "Mr. Prout has also been to the poor post-mistress, and alarmed her even for the safety of her office; because he happens to find that the word London is left out—that is, there was a country delivery, and he (Mr. Prout) suggested Mrs. Davies being at Leicester; so that made it possible the packet came from Leicester; or that it might have been directed to be left at the post-office, and he (Mr. Davies) call for it on Monday morning." Moreover, Mr. Prout has been a second time to Wellingborough on the same errand, and the fruits of his labours are contained in the last published number of the *Banner*!

So Mr. Prout has ventured to suggest "to the poor post-mistress," Mrs. Davies, "being at Leicester" on the Sunday (November 2nd, 1845), in order to have posted the packet or "budget" said to have been received at Wellingborough on the Monday morning. Mr. Stacey has Mrs. Davies, on Tuesday, November 4th, dropping a letter in the Mission-house! Let these two officers of the society fill up what Mrs. Davies did on the Monday, and perhaps no other evidence than *their own* may be wanted to destroy the testimony of both of them. I know where Mrs. Davies was on that Sunday, November 2nd, 1845. With her usual accuracy, she made an entry of the chapel she attended—the sermon she heard—the name of the preacher—and the text and subject, which will be produced when called for.

I further account for the reprint of part of the "Brief Statement," in the last number of the *Banner*, containing the Mission-house version of Mr. Davies' conduct, but suppressing and ignoring the corrections, explanations, facts, refutations, and documents, furnished in the "Defence of the Innocent," on the various topics introduced, from the fact of Mr. Prout having been with Dr. Campbell so much, and contributed so largely, to that number of the paper.

As to the literary character of that number of the *British Banner* there is but one opinion—and I calmly say that its spirit and moral character would be discredit to the editor of the lowest paper published in this metropolis.

I mention but one more fact.—Dr. Campbell publicly called upon me for my authority as to what Mr. Horley said about the Mission-house, printed on page 148 of the "Defence of the Innocent." Mr. Wickson and Mr. Cross—two Christian men who heard Mr. Horley make the statement—wrote to Dr. Campbell, and said so; but he would not publish their letters. Instead of publishing what they wrote, which proved the truth of my statement, he used these words:—"It now appears that, throughout, the language ascribed to Mr. Horley was without a particle of truth." This was written (after he had received the letters) by a Christian minister—a member of your Board—and of course written in the fear of God!

Let me say, Gentlemen, that among the men of the world, or in any club of civilians, he would have been "cut" for doing it, and I cannot yet believe that religious men—a Board of ecclesiastics—will persist in upholding such conduct.

It would be a singular fact to ascertain, how many hundreds of copies of that *Banner*, and even thousands, were posted from the *Banner* office, by order of some of the Mission-house party, and what the contract price per copy amounted to? Every one of the "gregarious cluster of nameless men" had a copy; and many of the members of the Caledonian-road Church had a copy gratuitously, but that the scandal about Mr. Davies might be circulated, but that they might have the benefit of reading the "Supplement!"

As these oppressions and cruelties have been, in one form or other, upheld for a long time, and are being, with increased recklessness, persevered in, I can sustain no longer my public fellowship with a body, the majority of whose members uphold such doings. I therefore resign my membership of the Board.

I cannot close without doing justice to those gentlemen who have disapproved of the proceedings of the Board, and I sincerely hope that many more will disavow all participation in such doings.

With my sincerest and heartiest testimony to the private virtues and excellences of many members of the Board with whom it has been my privilege to live in the happiest terms of amity and Christian friendship,

I remain, your obedient servant,  
(Signed) ROBERT AINSLIE.

Mornington-road, Regent's Park, December 13, 1853.

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